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John Fenwick

OF

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE,

Attorney at Law.

BORN AT HEXHAM 14 APRIL 1787.

MARRIED AT ALNWICK 9 JUNE 181-.

An Impartial

HISTORY

OF THE

TOWN AND COUNTY

of

Newcastle upon Tyne

AND ITS VICINITY.

comprehending an

ACCOUNT of its ORIGIN; POPULATION; COAL, COASTING, & FOREIGN TRADE.

together with

An accurate Description of all its Public Buildings, Manufactories, Coal Works &c

Newcastle upon Tyne,
Printed by & for Vint. Anderson,
in the Side.

1801.

Gough Add: Northumberland
8° 45.

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John Armſtrong, Newcaſtle
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— Anderſon, ſurgeon, ditto
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— Atkinſon, Sunderland
John Atkinſon, N. Shields, 8 cop.

B

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— Buddle, jun. ditto, 2 copies
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— Bell, Bill Quay

A

— Brighton, North Shore
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— Blenkinſop, dean-ſtreet, ditto
William Burnup, ditto
— Boaſer, ditto
William Brown, ditto
John Brown, ditto
— Bintze, ditto
Thomas Benchard, Lemington
Richard Blenkinſop, Felling-ſhore
— Barnes, North Shields, 10 cops.
— Bolton, dilto

C

Graham Clark, eſq, Newcaſtle
Meſſrs Cookſon, eſqrs. ditto
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William Chapman, engineer, ditto
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— Callender, attorney at law, ditto
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Thomas Crooks, ditto
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— Coats, bookſeller, ditto
Meſſrs Clark & Embleton, Morpeth
— Croſby, cooper, ditto
William Coats, wine merchant, do.
Robt. Curry, druggiſt ditto
— Challenge, innkeeper, ditto
— Crawford, merchant, ditto
— Cathro, baker, Gateſhead
— Colhoun, flax dreſſer, Newcaſtle
— Coulſon, Kenton,
John Croſby, ſail-maker,
— Colbeck, Lemington
A. W. Coulſon, Gateſhead
— Charlton, ditto
— Cloughton, North Shields
— Curry, ſail-maker, ditto
James Curry, gardener, ditto
G. Clayton, ſchool-maſter, ditto
William Charlton, Acomb
Reg. Charlton, Hexham
John Cockburn, Swans-Field
John Craggs, Durham
Henry Colling, ditto
Thomas Colbeck, Lemington
— Coventry, Newcaſtle
James Cook, ditto
Robert Cook, ditto
— Claxton tinman, ditto
— Charlton, Lemington
William Corner, Gateſhead
Serjeant Cameron, Sunderland
James Croſby, ditto

D

Thomas Daviſon, eſq. Newcaſtle
— Dewar, Jeſmond
Adjutant Dixon, Newcaſtle
— Douglas ſpirit-merchant, ditto
— Davenport, ditto
John Dixon, Northallerton
J. Dogſon, bricklayer, Newcaſtle
— Daviſon, Colour Factory ditto
— Dobſon, Gateſhead
M. Dunn, Weſt Matfin
— Doughty, clerk, Newcaſtle
— Darnel, wine-merchant, ditto
W. Daviſon, gardener, ditto
William Dixon, innkeeper, ditto
— Dibham, ditto
— Dean, wollen-draper, ditto
— Dobſon, Kenton
— Donkin, North Shields
William Dean, Hexham
Anth. Dowthwate, Durham
— Ditchburn, North Shields
Miſs Dawſon, ditto
— Dixon, ditto
— Dawſon, South Shields
William Douglas, grocer, ditto
Robert Dalzel, ditto
— Daviſon, innkeeper, ditto
Thomas Dobſon, Sunderland
— Dunn, Newcaſtle
Miſs Dunn, ditto
— Dale, High Heworth
William Dixon, Newcaſtle
— Daviſon, grocer, ditto
— Douglas, innkeeper, Sunderland

E

— Eddy, Newcaſtle
— Edwards, glaſs-cutter, ditto
— Elliot, glaſsmaker, ditto
Rev. Mr. Emmerſon, ditto
— Eaſton, Kenton
— Elliot, innkeeper, ditto
David Ewar, North Shields
Rev. W. Elliſon, Lintz Green
Benjamin Embleton, Alnwick
— Elſtob, draper, Sunderland
John Ellis, Lemington
— Elliot, innkeeper, Newcaſtle
Henry Ellis, ditto

F

George Forſter, farmer, Swalwell
Richard Fennings, Newcaſtle
John Fairbairn, Ballaſt-hills
Thomas Fenwick, Dipton
— Fife, ſurgeon, Newcaſtle
Robert Fenwick, ditto
— Froſt, cartman
W. Foreman, glaſsmaker, ditto
Mrs. Foreman, innkeeper, ditto
— Fell, ditto
— Fardy, ditto
— Foſter, flour-dealer, ditto
— Fairs, ditto
G. Finlay, taylor, North Shields
—Fairlam, ſailmaker, ditto
John Fleming, Hexham
John Forſter, Huln Abbey
Charles Fairleſs, Durham
John Forſter, ditto
— Falla, jun. Gateſhead
— Friend, ditto
— Fenham, Newcaſtle
— Ferman, confectioner, ditto
John Foſter, tanner, ditto
Collingwood Foſter, Lemington
R. Fairlam, hatter, Sunderland

G

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David Gibſon, Newcaſtle
John Gallen, Gateſhead
Dennis Graydon, Wylam Mill
Nathaniel Grace, Bremton
John Gale, Newcaſtle
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George Gibſon, ditto
John Gray, ditto
Miſs Mary Ann Grieveſon, ditto
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Jonathan Gray, Gateſhead
— Glen, founder, ditto
James Green, maſon, ditto
— Goff, Lemington
— Greenwell, North Shields
— Greenwell, brewer, ditto
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Alexander Gleaſon, Durham
Thomas Graham, Hexham
Edward Gough, Lemington
— Greathead, South Shields
— Goodfellow, Ouſeburn
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— Gooddrick, ſurgeon, ditto
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— Hervey, raff merchant, ditto
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Iſaac Henzell, painter, ditto
— Hunter, engraver, ditto
Robert Hedley, eſq. ditto
John Hodgſon, eſq. Elſwick
Thomas Henderſon, Benwell
— Harle, ditto
Matthew Hall, Cheſter-le ſtreet
William Hodgſon, Newcaſtle
William Hunter, Morpeth
Thomas Hobkirk, ditto
John Humphreys, ditto
Thomas Hunter, ditto
Nicholas Henderſon, ditto

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R. Hood, innkeeper, Newcaſtle
J. Henry, innkeeper, ditto, 3 cops
Robert Hardy, ditto
— Hill, innkeeper, ditto
— Harbittle, corn merchant, ditto
— Hilton, merchant, ditto
— Hodgſon, clothier, ditto
— Hall, hatter, ditto
John Hall, ditto
— Head, raff merchant, ditto
Mrs. Jane Hopper, Tinmouth
Jeremiah Hutchinſon, N. Shields
John Hall, Corbridge
James Hall, gent. Stagſhaw Bank
Thomas Hall, Corbridge Bar
— Hunter, ſeedſman, Hexham
A. Hedley, Durham
Joſeph Hepworth, ditto
Michael Heaviſide, ditto
— Hoare, ditto
W. Harriſon, South Shields
— Handcock, ſurgeon, ditto
— Hobſon, Wearmouth,
Michael Hodgſon, ditto
—Hepple, flour-dealer, Ouſeburn
Joſhua Henzell, ditto
— Harriſon, baker, Gateſhead
— Hand, Felling Shore
Robert Hurſt, Winlaton
George Heppell, Swalwell
William Heppell, Wallſend
John Hugget, ditto
R. Hodgſon, baker, Sunderland,
— Hudſon, fitter, ditto
Thomas Horſley, painter, ditto
— Harriſon, ditto, ditto
Thomas Hardy, ditto
William Hudſon, ditto

I

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— Innis, ditto
— Johnſton, carver and gilder, do.
John Johnſton, joiner, ditto
Meſſrs. Joblin and Kirſop, ditto
— Joblin, viewer, Benwell
Joſeph Johnſon, Newcaſtle
— Jamieſon, ſmith, ditto
— Joyce, gardener, Gateſhead
Mrs. James, tobacconiſt, Newcaſtle
— Jowſey, druggiſt, North Shields
M. Jameſon, Berwick
R. Jefferſon, Hexham
Anthony Jameſon, Yarm
Robert Jurdiſon, North Shields
— Jackſon, grocer, Sunderland
— Jobling, jun. Gateſhead
— Johnſon, tanner, Newcaſtle
Joſeph Jobling, Winlaton
George Johnſon, Dunſtal
G. Innis, hair-dreſſer, Sunderland

K

Edward Kentiſh, M. D. Newcaſtle
John Kirkley, Gateſhead
— Kavers, Wallſend
— Kent, linen draper, Newcaſtle
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J. Kay, glaſsmaker, 2 copies, do.
John Knotman, 2 copies, ditto
— Kemble, merchant, ditto
Captain Kirton, ditto
— Kirkley, flour-dealer, ditto
— Kell, grocer, North Shields
— Kell, Fellon Shore
G. Kirſop, organiſt, Durham
Samuel Kidd, ditto
George Kell, South Shields
Rev. Mr. Knipe, Wearmouth
Edward Kipling, ſhoemaker, ditto
William Kirkley, Sunderland

L

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Devergy Liſle, ditto
Thomas Liſle, ditto
James Lamb, ditto
A. Lake, ſurgeon, ditto
William Lloyd, ditto
Lewis Legg, ditto
Mrs. Logan, Durham
Gavin Landells, Alemouth
— Laidler, Eglingham
C. F. Lindſay, Alnwick

Mrs. Lamb, midwife, Newcaſtle
— Lamley, ſtone-cutter, ditto
George Lenard, ditto
— Lubbron, ditto
— Littlefare, innkeeper, ditto
— Leighton, innkeeper, ditto
— Liddell, ditto
— Liddell, Egypt, ditto
James Lyon, North Shie'ds
George Lyam, hair-dreſſer, ditto
— Lamb, baker, Sunderland
Robert Leighton, butcher, ditto

M

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William Marley, Newcaſtle
R. Maull, ſchoolmaſter, do. 2 cop.
John Morriſon, ſmith, ditto
Rev. William Moiſes
George Marſhall, Gateſhead,
J. Mulcaſter, Langley Mill
Rev. Mr. Meſſenger, Stanington
Robert Moody, Alnwick
— Morton, clerk, Newcaſtle
R. Miller, innkeeper, ditto
James Moffat, founder, ditto
— Moffat, butcher, ditto
Mrs. Moffat, Sandgate, ditto
— Manyham, Kenton
— Melvin, Gateſhead Fell
J. Marſhall, bookſeller, Gateſhead
— Milburn, North Shields
—M'Lean, brewer, ditto
William Metcalf, Corbridge
Ambroſe Maddiſon, Hexham
Joſeph Meggiſon, Durham
Thomas Myers, Sunderland
— Mills, grocer, ditto
—M'Leod, brewer, Gateſhead
B. Lumley, High Team
Thomas Lawſon, ditto
M. Marſhall, Newcaſtle
H. Moulter, ditto
John Mitchiſon, Bell's Cloſe
John Moraley, Swalwell
William Maxwell, ditto
— Mann, Wallſend
George Metcalf, Sunderland
— Middleton, boat-builder, ditto
— Middleton, Wearmouth
Robert Mavon, Ouſeburn
James Maillard, Newcaſtle

N

Joſeph Nixon, Newcaſtle
— Neſbit, Grocer, ditto
— Newton, cooper, ditto
— Noble, ditto
— Nixon, ditto
George Nelſon, Morpeth
John Nelſon, Corbridge
William Nixon, South Shields
— Natros, butcher, Sunderland

O

Robert Oliver, Newcaſtle
Thomas Ornſby, ditto
R. Ormſton, ditto
— Oſwald, ditto

P

William Potter, brewer, Newcaſtle
— Purvis, attorney ditto
— Purvis, ditto
— Potts, grocer, ditto
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John Pattiſon, printer, ditto
— Pow, grocer ditto
John Pettigrew, ditto
William Parſons, Alemouth
John Pringle, Alnwick
William Pringle, ditto
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John Petre, ditto
— Proctor, bleacher ditto
— Price, ditto
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— Porter, clerk, ditto
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— Pattiſon, cuſtoms, ditto
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— Parker, Whitelead Factory
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— Patterſon, Wallſend
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— Roddam, clothier, Gateſhead
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James Row, fitter, ditto
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— Robſon, Walker
— Railſton, North Shields
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— Robertſon, roper, South Shields
John Ratcliff, Corbridge
Joſeph Richley ditto
Robert Rowntree, Durham
— Richmond, South Shields
H. Robſon, raf-merchant ditto
Thomas Richardſon, Sunderland
— Row, grocer, ditto
N. Rowley, Newcaſtle
— Rowley, cork-cutter, ditto
Thomas Robſon, ditto
— Rowell, grocer, ditto
— Reid, South Shore

S

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David Stephenſon, ditto
J. Smithſon, ditto
— Sweet, tobacconiſt, ditto
John Sykes, ſhoemaker, ditto
Edward Scaife, ditto
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— Stott, ditto

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D. Tickle, watchmaker, do. 3 cop.
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R. Thompſon, ditto
— Tyzick, glaſsmaker, ditto
William Taylor, ditto
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— Taylor, innkeeper, ditto
Mark Tweedy, Berwick
— Taylor, Lemington
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Captain Thomas Taylor, ditto
— Todd, baker, ditto
Capt. T. Thompſon, South Shields
John Tenant, Stockton
George Tindle, ditto
W. Tarn, Sunderland
George Taylor, ditto
R. Thompſon, South Shields
Iſaac Taylor, Newcaſtle
— Turnbull, South Shore
Thomas Taylor, Dunſtal
— Thompſon, jun. Newcaſtle
Robert Taylor, ditto
— Thompſon, attorney, ditto
— G. Taylor, coachmaker, ditto
— Thomas Tiren, Gateſhead
— Taylor, Lemington
— Iſaac Taylor, Newbourn
— J. Tweddle, hatter, Darlington
— James Taylor, cabinet-maker

V

John Verty, Newcaſtle

W

Rev. Mr. Wilſon, Newcaſtle
Richard Wilſon, ditto
— Wilkinſon, ſtay-maker, ditto
— Wilkinſon, innkeeper, ditto
George Wallace, ditto
Joſeph Walker, Shiel Row, ditto
Robert White, ditto
George Millis, ditto
Robert Wood, ditto
George Wilſon, ditto
— Wheatley, ditto
John Watſon, Willington
Matthew Waddell, Morpeth
Thomas Wilkin, Alnwick
Rev. Henry Wilkin, ditto
— White, glaſs-cutter, Newcaſtle
— Wilſon, ditto
— Walton, clerk, ditto
— Wallace, merchant, do. 2 copies
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— John Wood, ditto
Henry Waggot, ditto
James Wigham, ditto
Mrs. Wright, innkeeper, ditto
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Robert Woollet, North Shields
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John Wood, joiner, ditto
Rev. George Wilſon, Corbridge
Alexander Whaley, Sandhoe
John Wood, Hexham
Thomas Wilkinſon, Stockton
Thomas Woodneſs, Durham
Robert Waugh, ditto
Joſeph Wood, Ouſeburn
— Wilſon, ditto
George Watſon, North Shields

Caleb Wilſon, baker, Sunderland
Taylor Winſhip, Newcaſtle
— Waugh, Steam-mill, ditto
William Wright, ditto
William Wilſon, ditto
— Wilſon, Lemington
— Waters, Swalwell
Mrs. M Wood, Stockton, 2 copa.
Miſs Weatherburn, Biſhop Wearmouth, 3 copies

Y

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— Yellowley, St. Ann's Row
Mark Young, Leazes
Robert Young, Alemouth
— Young, Greenhead
— Young, ſlater, Newcaſtle
— Young Shakſpeare, ditto

Names omitted in the foregoing liſt.

R. H. Atkinſon, North Shields
Mrs. Robſon, Newcaſtle
Peter Shields, Tynemouth
Mrs. Taylor, South Shields

☞ *We have endeavoured to make the above liſt as perfect as poſſible, by printing all the names that have been handed to us. Our friends will therefore pardon any accidental omiſſions.*

TO THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL

THE MAYOR,

RECORDER, ALDERMEN,

SHERIFF,

COMMON COUNCIL,

AND

FREE BURGESSES,

OF

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE,

THE FOLLOWING

IMPARTIAL HISTORY

OF THEIR ANCIENT AND RESPECTABLE TOWN,

IS, WITH THE UTMOST DEFERENCE, INSCRIBED,

BY THEIR DEVOTED HUMBLE SERVANTS,

THE PUBLISHERS.

ADDRESS to the PUBLIC.

THE inquisitive mind, assisted by history, explores the transactions of ages past, and, by analogy, forms conjectures of what probably is, in future, to be achieved on the busy scenes of human affairs. It is obvious that faithful history is highly useful and of the utmost importance. Indeed, without it, ages would revolve, and events great and consequential take place; but, if not recorded in the historic page, they would all be carried down the stream of time, into the dark abyss of oblivion, forgotten and unknown. The honest historian, therefore, unwarped by prejudice, and superior to circumstances of *locality*, who considers the world as his country, and all men his brethren, is a friend to human kind. Hence, when HERODOTUS, THUCYDIDES, DIODORUS SICULUS, LIVIUS, and other renowned names, recited their immortal compositions, in the Forum and public places, before their enlightened and exulting countrymen, the honours paid them

were next to divine, and their works and statues were placed in the highest niches of fame. Thus, had not their noble and enchanting works been handed down, ages past would have been to us a chaos of inexplicable confusion, of loose conjecture, and fantastic reverie. But by the pictures of these grand efforts of genius, held up by the hand of history, a noble ambition is kindled; and the philosopher, the statesman, the warrior, and the artist, are filled with a generous ardour, if not to emulate, at least to imitate, such illustrious examples.

But universal history is, like universal monarchy, a subject too vast for the human mind. The narrative, even of all the transactions which have happened in a single nation, such as our own, must be defective and incomplete. Topographical history, therefore, as the learned Dr. Whitaker, in his history of Manchester, justly observes, must make the nearest approaches to historical perfection.

The account, which we presume to offer to the public, of NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, and its environs, is of this species. The subject is of high importance, as it embraces a period of above a thousand years, during which many transactions and events took place, interesting at

at those remote periods, and whose influence extends, to the aggrandizement and felicity of this opulent and flourishing mart of trade, to the present times. It is true, the history of this very important place has been attempted by others; and candour must acknowledge, that the authors are far from being destitute of merit. The reverend Messrs. BOURNE and BRAND have each published a history of Newcastle; but it has been a general complaint, that most authors unhappily fall into one of these extremes, either of obscure, uninforming brevity, or minute, tedious, and unimportant details. How justly the latter of these gentlemen merited the censure of the learned Reviewers, on account of this historical defect, is not for us to decide. Depreciation is not only the offspring of an undiscerning head, but is also the sure criterion of a malevolent heart. Nor shall we, by dwelling on the defects found in the works of others, thereby wish to anticipate the partiality of the public in favour of our own; but we are, however, responsible to the public for the reasons and motives which have induced us to the present undertaking. They are simply these:---To obviate the obscurities; to retrench the tedious and irksome details to be

be found in other histories of this interesting town and county, and carefully excluding copies of old, musty grants, written in uncouth, unclassical Latin, which, indeed, occupy many pages of Mr. Brand's work, and useful only to few readers.

Another motive for our holding out to the public a history in the present form, is, that as we live in times when œconomy becomes a virtue, so peculiarly necessary, we would, therefore, wish to condense the subject into as small a compass as we can with propriety, and so make brevity and precision the basis of our work. *Two guineas* for the history of a single town, to the greater number of people, has the appearance of extravagance; but we hope to afford equally gratifying historical entertainment for a fourth part of that sum.

Another powerful incentive, is, the vast increase of trade, manufactories, iron-founderies, new streets, and magnificent buildings, by which Newcastle is enriched and adorned, all since Mr Brand published his history in 1788.

It would have crowned our wishes, had it been put in our power to have added, that a particular description is subjoined of the CANAL which, from Newcastle to the western shores,

shores, divides the island, and joins the German Sea to the Atlantic Ocean. But, with a sigh, we presume only to hope, that, upon the return of a general peace, this truly noble, patriotic, and incalculably beneficial design, will be resumed.

A circumstance highly favourable for throwing light upon a principal division of our work, is, that by the recent digging up of the vast fossa, or ditch, of the Roman wall, from near Byker to Wallsend, curious discoveries have been made of arms, altars, bones of sacrificed animals, and other pieces of antiquity. Two gentlemen, the Messrs. BUDDLE, at Wallsend, whose house is upon the very site of the ancient Roman castrum, have generously favoured us with their discoveries. And we feel ourselves highly gratified and encouraged by a variety of curious and interesting observations communicated to us by several other ingenious and learned gentlemen, to whom we offer our most grateful respects.

In fine, in the execution of the work, we claim no indulgence from the candid public on the stale pretence, that it was a hasty compilation, indigestedly put together, the offspring of occasional vacant time.---No; we mean not in this manner to insult the good sense

sense of an enlightened public; but, on the contrary, to assure them, that to render the production worthy of their attention and patronage, the talents, learning, and assistance, of several literary gentlemen have been employed.

As we hereby candidly acknowledge, that we have made free with such sentiments in the works of Messrs. BOURNE, BRAND, and others who have written upon this town, as to us appeared useful; we will not, therefore, trouble our readers with references to the pages, &c. of these gentlemen's works.

To command success, in any undertaking, is not the lot of humanity; but the editors, by diligence, and employing their most strenuous endeavours, humbly hope, at least, to deserve it.

HISTORY

HISTORY

OF

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE,

&c. &c.

THE hiſtory of the town and county of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, on account of its relative conſequence and advantage to ſociety, is highly intereſting. Previous, however, to our entering upon this agreeable, but arduous undertaking, it will be neceſſary to remark, that the richeſt domains of the three then known quarters of the globe were indebted to the Romans for their civilization and improvements in the arts of life. It is true, that mighty people were as boundleſs in their ambition, as they were irreſiſtible in their arms; and not contented with the faireſt and moſt fertile provinces of the world, they extended their vaſt empire from the banks of the Tygris to the frozen ſhores of the Caledonian ſea. And ſo, by either finding or making all nations hoſtile to their arrogant claims, they, by policy, diſcipline, and valour, in the courſe of ſix centuries, ſubdued Aſia, Africa, and Europe to their dominion. It was from this love of conqueſt, fatal to the repoſe and independence of nations who had not before heard of the Roman name, that a

large proportion of the human kind were ſubjugated or deſtroyed. It was peculiarly ſo with our iſland of Britain, with the hiſtory of which we are beſt acquainted, and in which we are moſt immediately intereſted. Thus realiſing the deſcriptive lines of the poet:

> Of rougher front, a mighty people came!
> A race of heroes! in thoſe virtuous times
> Which knew no ſtain, ſave that with partial flame
> Their *deareſt* country, they too fondly lov'd.
>
> THOMSON'S WINTER.

But, as a late enlightened hiſtorian obſerves, the Romans, after having ſubdued, or exterminated, the nations, and given mankind time to breathe, ſet about civilizing the countries they had conquered; and, by inſtructing them in their language, laws, arts, and arms, they made ſome atonement for the ſanguinary exceſſes to which their inſatiable ambition had impelled them†.

But that warlike people, intending their empire ſhould run on in the long line of ages coeval with time itſelf, have accordingly left, to the admiration of mankind, the moſt ſtupendous monuments of their unrivalled power and profound policy. And in no country, in the extenſive bounds of their once mighty empire, are left, to the inveſtigation of the antiquary and the hiſtorian, more ſtriking remains of their priſtine greatneſs than in Britain; nor in any part of the country, greater or more noble than thoſe in Newcaſtle and its vicinity, as will fully appear when we preſent our readers with a detailed delineation of this town.

The

† See Dr Robertſon's Hiſt. of Charles V. emperor of Germany.

The uniform teſtimony of ancient hiſtory informs us, that Julius Cæſar was the firſt Roman general who invaded Britain; nor was the undertaking unworthy of the greateſt hero, and the moſt accompliſhed warrior. This event happened in his third conſulate, and about fifty-two years previous to the Chriſtian æra. Cæſar having ſubdued all antient Gaul, or modern France, and having tranſported his victorious legions over the Rhine by forming a bridge of ſtupendous ſtructure, He, the firſt of the Roman name, invaded the warlike nations of Germany, and having overthrown them in many bloody battles, broke their power, almoſt exterminated many of their moſt powerful nations, and brought them under the domination of Rome.

Having achieved theſe warlike and mighty enterprizes, he reſolved to invade Britain. We are told that his motive for this invaſion was the hopes which he entertained of obtaining pearls of vaſt ſize and beauty.* And although this intrepid commander made good his landing, by two ſucceſſive invaſions, yet he ſoon perceived that he owed his ſucceſs over theſe fierce barbarians more to his diſcipline and arms, than to any ſuperiority in point of courage and reſolution. Cæſar, finding his legions thinned with ſo many bloody engagements with Germans, Gauls, and Britons, fired with ambition to be at the head of the world, overthrew his rival Pompey in the plains of Pharſalia, and, aſſuming abſolute power, was aſſaſſinated in the ſenate-houſe by the chief men of that illuſtrious body. Auguſtus, his ſucceſſor, ſeems to have paid little attention to Britain; and more than a century revolved from its firſt invaſion

* Suet. vit. Jul. Cæſ.

by Cæſar, before it was further diſquieted by the hoſtile arms of Rome. It was then, however, ſeriouſly invaded, in ſeveral parts at once, by the Roman legions; ſo that a large portion of the iſland, extending from the Humber to the Tyne, and now known by the name of the counties of York, Durham, Lancaſter, Weſtmoreland, and Cumberland, after many bloody battles, was obliged to yield to the ſuperior diſcipline of the Roman arms. It was during this period, in the reign of Claudius, that Caractacus, generaliſſimo of the Britons, and queen Boadicea, diſplayed ſuch heroiſm and love of independence. At laſt, under Veſpaſian, the greateſt part of the country of the Brigantes, poſſeſſors of the counties mentioned above, was over-run and conquered by the victorious Romans; and the complete conqueſt of that warlike people was achieved under the reign of Titus: Julius Agricola, one of the moſt enterpriſing and ſucceſsful leaders of antiquity, commanded the legions under that emperor, and led his victorious troops from the Tyne through Northumberland, and the moſt fertile parts of North Britain, till they encamped on the heights of Abernethy which overlook the river Tay, about five miles ſouth eaſt from Perth. It is ſaid by the beſt informed Scotch hiſtorians, that when the Roman legions, from the elevated ſituation of their camp, beheld the windings of that beautiful river, the enchanting plains on its banks, and the rude grandeur of the Grampian hills at a diſtance, they were ſtruck with pleaſant aſtoniſhment, and cried out in ecſtacy, "*Ecce Tyber!*" Behold the Tyber!

The

The political and ſagacious Romans, beginning to diſcern how important the province of Britain might prove to their empire, ſet about ſecuring the conqueſts which they had made in this iſland. For this purpoſe, Agricola drew a ſtrong line of garriſons acroſs the iſthmus which runs between the rivers Forth and Clyde; and, as Tacitus informs us, the Romans were thus lords of incomparably the beſt and moſt fertile parts of the country; while the *aborigines*, or natives, were confined by woods, rocks, and hills, as it were, within another iſland.‡

The reſtleſs Caledonians, impatient of the galling reſtraints of their cruel maſters, gave them no repoſe, but by frequent incurſions into the Roman provinces, rendered another, and ſtronger, rampart neceſſary. This was effected in the year 117 of the chriſtian æra. We are informed by Spartian, that they drew a wall of eighty miles in length, and completely divided the Romans from the barbarians. The veſtiges of this once mighty mound are ſtill viſible, at Calender-houſe, near Falkirk, where it terminated a little to the eaſtward, and from the Carron to the Clyde it extended from ſea to ſea. The vulgar affix to that rampart the appellation of "*Graham's Dyke.*" But upon the recal of Agricola, and the command of the Roman legions being committed to leſs ſkilful hands, the Caledonians eaſily burſt over the barrier, conſtructed only of earth and palliſadoes, faced up with ſtone; and, pouring their hordes of fierce warriors into the fertile plains of the Lothians, and from thence croſſing the Tweed, they over-ran Northumberland, and continued their victorious career to the Humber, and the confines of the city of York.

But

‡ Vide Tacitum in vita Agricolæ. Fordunum. Buchannanum.

But Severus, acquiring the imperial purple, put a ſtop to their deſolating incurſions. This emperor was juſtly termed one of the greateſt of the Romans; if thoſe talents which form the accompliſhed warrior and profound ſtateſman merit that title. He was, however, of unbounded ambition, which he ſupported by acts of the moſt atrocious cruelty, and relentleſs hatred, againſt ſuch as gave him the ſmalleſt offence.* He carried his arms almoſt to the ſhores of the Indus in the eaſt, and the moſt diſtant nations of the north felt their power. The Caledonians revolted under his government, and, as has been obſerved, drove the Romans beyond Adrian's Wall, filling the whole province with terror and confuſion. Severus, who could brook no oppoſition, collected a mighty army, which he brought in tranſports to Britain, and, after many bloody battles, over-ran the whole iſland, obliging the Caledonians to ſurrender to him the moſt fertile parts of their country, particularly the lowlands, on the ſouth of the river Forth.

But, well knowing the reſtleſs turn of that warlike people, he reſolved to ſecure his conqueſt by ſome ſtrong rampart, that ſhould effectually prevent their incurſions for the future. For this purpoſe, from about the year 197 to 207, by the labours of his ſoldiers, and aſſiſtance of the well-affected natives, he built a ſtrong barrier, conſiſting of a ſtone-wall, of great height and thickneſs, while another, at about twenty yards diſtance, of earth faced with ſtone, ran parallel with it, from the ſhores of the Iriſh ſea acroſs the whole iſland, terminating at Wallſend, a little village, about three miles eaſt from

* Herodianus in Vitâ Severi.

from Newcaſtle.* The former of theſe was built by Severus; the latter by Adrian; but this having been often, in many parts, thrown down, occaſioned the rearing of that wall by Severus, to protect his civilized ſubjects in their poſſeſſions, and alſo, by ſuch a mighty undertaking, to perpetuate his name and renown through ſucceeding ages.

This ſtupendous work ran through Newcaſtle; and as that of Severus formed part of the town-wall, which we ſhall ſhew when treating more circumſtantially of the public edifices, we claim the indulgence of our readers, in making ſome further obſervations on this auguſt monument of the Roman power and greatneſs. "During my reſi-"dence at Newcaſtle upon Tyne," ſays Mr. Brand in his hiſtory, "prompted by an ardour of curioſity "bordering on enthuſiaſm, I occaſionally made ſeve-"ral excurſions, to examine the ſtill remaining veſ-"tiges of thoſe ſtupendous works, raiſed here, by a "people who were juſtly ſtyled the conquerors of "the world." We ſhall therefore avail ourſelves of the privilege of preſenting our readers with the ſubſtance of ſome of the obſervations of that author.

Agricola appears to have ſuggeſted the firſt idea of building theſe, by erecting, A. D. 79, a row of forts acroſs the iſland, from Tynmouth, on the German ocean, to the Iriſh ſea.

To connect theſe, and to condenſe their ſtrength, the emperor Adrian, firſt in the year 120, and afterwards Severus, A. D. 207. raiſed their ſeparate walls, along the ſame tract of country, running from ſtation to ſtation, till an unfordable frith on one ſide, and

* Camden's Britannia.

and a broad and deep river on the other, rendered it unneceſſary to extend them any further.

We ſhall not ſervilely copy or tranſcribe the leſs intereſting obſervations in Mr. Brand's hiſtory, but ſhall avail ourſelves of ſome of his more curious remarks, as well as of other antiquarians, who have employed their inveſtigations in tracing and deſcribing the ancient remains of Roman grandeur. All conſent that Wallſend derives its etymology from its being the eaſtern termination of Severus's wall, and

SEGEDUNUM

ſeems to have been the firſt ſtation of the Roman troops, appointed to guard, and to garriſon the wall. It was, perhaps, the ſtation of the firſt cohort of the Lergi, and ſtood at a ſmall diſtance from the preſent village of Wallſend, and a little to the eaſt of a gentleman's houſe, now called Carville. The houſe built for the viewer of the colliery ſtands parallel to the weſt rampart of the ſtation, and near the ſouth-weſt angle.

The fire-engine ſtands about ſix yards to the north of the wall, the foundations of which were found here ſix feet beneath the level of the ground. "In 1783," ſays Mr. Brand, "I ſaw part of a wall "compoſed of Roman bricks, cemented cloſe toge- "ther with lime. I found a fibula, ſome Roman "tegula and coins, a ring, &c. Immenſe quanti- "ties of bones, horns, and teeth of animals, that had "been ſacrificed, are continually turning up. Alſo "two Roman querns, or hand-mills, by which the "ſoldiers ground their corn, were found in this ſta- "tion." To this may be added the obſervations of that ingenious gentleman, Mr. Buddle, viewer of Wallſ-

Wallſend colliery, who politely obliged us with a ſight of ſeveral very great curioſities, which he and his ſon have collected, and preſerved with great care. The firſt object in this collection, which ſtruck us, was a deer's or buck's horn, of large dimenſions, extremely ſolid and weighty. Its length is two feet and a half, with a ſpace of fifteen inches betwixt the extreme points of the antlers, and indicates the animal to have been of great ſize and ſtrength. This horn is different from thoſe of the tame ſpecies with which we are acquainted, and probably of one of thoſe kinds ſo frequently mentioned by the ancients, which are exterminated in this part of the iſland, but ſtill exiſt in many places of the Highlands. The place where this natural curioſity was diſcovered, was a kind of pit, near Mr. Buddle's houſe, like an inverted cone, artfully conſtructed, of nine feet diameter at the top, nine feet in depth, and two feet diameter at the bottom. It is probable, that this animal had been ſacrificed in ſome of the religious rites of the army encamped here.

The next article we viewed was the ſkeleton of a cow's head, which has loſt the maxilla inferior, and the frontal bone only remains entire, with a ſmall part of the maxilla ſuperior. The conſtruction of this ſkeleton, however, is ſo ſingular, and ſo different from that of any of the domeſticated kind of the preſent time, that it is highly probable it may be the remains of one of a ſpecies that uſed to run wild, in ancient times. Of this kind, there is perhaps none to be found, at leaſt in the northern parts of the iſland, but in Chillingham Park, in Northumberland, belonging to the earl of Tankerville. And as many, prompted by curioſity, come from a great diſtance,

to ſee this ſingular ſpecies of cattle, we hope a ſhort deſcription of them will not be unacceptable to our readers; eſpecially as they have frequented that part of the country from time immemorial, and probably were that very ſpecies which the Romans uſed for religious oblations, as well as for domeſtic purpoſes, in their encampments.

Their colour (ſays Dr. Fuller in his hiſtory of Berwick) is invariably white, muzzle black; the whole of the inſide of the ear, and about one-third of the outſide, from the tip downwards, red. Horns white, with black tips, very fine, and bent upwards. Some of the bulls have a thin, upright mane, about two inches long. The weight of the oxen is from thirty-five to forty-five ſtone, the whole carcaſe. The beef is finely marbled, and of exquiſite flavour. They never are very fat, from the nature of their paſture, and the frequent agitations they are put into, by the curioſity of ſtrangers.

At the firſt appearance of any perſon, they ſet off in full gallop, and, at the diſtance of two or three hundred yards, make a wheel round, and come boldly up again, toſſing their heads in a menacing manner. On a ſudden they make a full ſtop, at the diſtance of forty or fifty yards, looking wildly at the object of their ſurpriſe; and, upon the leaſt motion being made, they all turn round again, and gallop off with equal ſpeed, but not to the ſame diſtance; forming a ſhorter circle, and again returning with a bolder and more threatening aſpect, they approach much nearer, about thirty yards, and once more gallop off. Theſe circuitous motions are repeated, till they come within a few yards, when the ſpectators

tors think it highly prudent ro decamp, and to leave them maſters of the field.

If any perſon happens to come near their calves, they clap their heads cloſe to the ground, and lie like a hare, to hide themſelves. The Doctor adds, that he himſelf, traverſing the park, found one of their calves, which, although weak, inſtantly got up, and bolted at him with all its force, and bellowing aloud, alarmed the whole herd, who, ruſhing with impetuoſity againſt the ſuppoſed aggreſſor, obliged the ſon of Æſculapius to make a precipitate retreat.

It is remarkable of theſe gregarious and highly ſocial animals, that when any one happens to be wounded with the ſhots of the huntſman, or has become weak through age or ſickneſs, the reſt of the herd ſet upon it, and gore it to death!—Porpoiſes, and various other creatures, do the ſame to their wounded aſſociates.

The jaw-bone, ſeemingly of a cow, or ox, of vaſt ſize and ſolidity, is among Mr. Buddle's natural curioſities, and was found deep in the ſite of the Roman camp, or caſtrum. He has likewiſe a ſheep's or goat's ſkull, of very ſingular ſhape and dimenſion; alſo urns of pottery, very curious, of red, yellow, and dark brown colours. One is beautifully adorned with figures, in different compartments, like females carrying baſkets of flowers, fruits, &c. on their heads. Many handles of urns, &c. but much ſhattered and mutilated. A ſtone, about ſix inches ſquare, perforated with round holes, with curious devices, apparently uſed for colours, ſome of which are yet perfectly viſible.

Meſſrs. Buddle informed us, that in digging a foundation for their dwelling-houſe, out-houſes, and garden, ſcarcely a ſpade or mattock turned up the ſoil, but along with it bones, horns, fragments of veſſels, arms, &c. appeared.

What was particularly intereſting, among other pieces of information, theſe gentlemen told us, that, in turning up the ſoil, about eighteen months ago, they diſcovered a cauſeway leading to a wharf, on the bank of the river, perfectly viſible and diſtinct.

As the Roman wall terminated here, the ſouth and eaſt ſides of the fort, or caſtrum, were traced, while the foſſa, on the eaſt ſide, was quite eaſily diſcerned.

About ſixty or eighty yards to the ſouth-weſt of Mr. Buddle's houſe, on digging deep for clay to make bricks, many foundations of buildings were diſcovered; and falling among ſome deep trenches, or ditches, numbers of human bones and ſkeletons were found.

This probably was the *cæmeterium*, or burying-place, belonging to the camp, which ſeems to have been very extenſive at this place, and where they depoſited the bodies of their deceaſed friends, either by inhumating the corpſes, or ſelecting their bones from the funeral piles, and putting them in urns, placed them in this receſs of ſilence, and of death!

Coins, of different dimenſions, have likewiſe been found; but their legends are utterly defaced by time.

All writers on Roman antiquities, Ptolemy, Gronovius, Lipſius, Kennet, Dempſter, and others, uniformly obſerve, that thoſe martial people, in their encampments, always choſe a declivity, or ſome emi-

eminence, ſloping down towards a river, or running water: and Dr. Horſley ſays, that the Romans, in chooſing the ſituation for the vaſt undertaking now under review, fixed "the ſtation at Wallſend with "its ſouthern rampart facing the ſun, and ſloping "quite down to the river Tyne."

The next was, where Bees-houſes ſtood, now called Store-houſes, near Walker, where the veſtiges of Severus' wall were perfectly diſcernable; but, by a late reſolution of the proprietors of the lands through which the wall had its direction, the foſſa, and the whole ſite of the wall, are dug up, and converted into valuable arable land, from Wallſend to Byker-hill. The antiquary views theſe devaſtations of the labours of ancient times with a ſigh, while the huſbandman drives his plow-ſhare with unconcern thro' thoſe ditches and mounds, where once gleamed hoſtile arms. Theſe former ſcenes of death are now covered with the yellow harveſt.—A transformation ſurely infinitely better for the felicity of mankind!

But, in tracing the direction of the Roman wall, we find that it ran quite through Newcaſtle. Camden, in his Britannia, makes no doubt of this having been the caſe, and ſays, "It is moſt certain, that "the rampart, and afterwards the wall of Severus, "paſſed through this town, *viz.* Newcaſtle; and "at PAMPEDON, or PANDON-GATE, there ſtill remains, "as it's thought, one of the little turrets of that "very wall." There was, indeed, a turret of ſingular ſtructure over the gate at Pandon; the maſonry of which was quite different from that of the town wall. That it was ancient to a proverb, is well known among the commonalty of Newcaſtle; nothing being more general than, when they would de-

deſcribe the great antiquity of any thing, to ſay, "*It's as old as Pandon-gate.*" This venerable remain of antiquity, forming part of Severus' wall, was taken down by an order of the magiſtrates of Newcaſtle, to widen the paſſage, in the year 1796.

Near where this turret ſtood is the Wall Knoll, a very ancient place; which, Mr. Grey poſitively ſays, was part of the Roman wall. The name itſelf ſeems to indicate as much; for the *wall* upon the *knoll*, or *eminence*, can only be underſtood of the Roman wall; becauſe it had this name from very ancient times, ſays Bourne, long before the building of the town wall, to which it lies quite contiguous.

A little above Pandon, on the height, ſtands the Carpenters' Tower. This too, ſays the ſame author, was one of the Roman towers, as could eaſily be diſcerned before the taking down of the turrets, which was done to build a commodious room for the company of Shipwrights, or Carpenters.

Ancient tradition ſays, that the Roman wall went through the Weſt Gate, and the vicar's garden, along that ground where St. Nicholas' church now ſtands, by the Wall Knoll, Sally-port, and ſo on to Wallſend.

This is extremely probable, as it may ſtill be in the recollection of many of the inhabitants of Newcaſtle, that from the weſt end of the narrow ſtreet called the Low-bridge, to the eaſt end of St. Nicholas' church-yard, a bridge, conſtructed of large and maſſive ſtones, of vaſt heighth, and evidently of Roman architecture, was thrown over a frightful dean, now a ſpacious and beautiful ſtreet, full of ſplendid ſhops and dwelling-houſes.

Hol-

Hollingſhead, in tracing the courſe of the Roman wall, in his deſcription of Britain, ſays, that its moſt weſtern extent was at Bolneſs upon Burgh, and following the reſpective ſtations for the cohorts, he brings it to Rutcheſter; it then paſſes to Heddon, Walbottle, Denton, and from thence to Newcaſtle.

In a manuſcript of the late John Milbank, Eſq. and communicated to Mr. Bourne, there is given a ſhort and circumſtantial account of this celebrated monument of ancient Roman greatneſs. "Adrian," ſays this gentleman, "built a wall of turf or ſods, from "the ſea-ſide, beyond Carliſle, unto Tynemouth. It "was overthrown by the inroads of the northern "nations, after the emperor had left the iſland; but "Severus built, near the ſame ſite, another wall of "ſtone, and erected towers and other places for "watching at every mile's end, and a paſſage ran "through the whole extent of the wall, by which, "with a horn, or ſome hollow inſtrument, they could "give intelligence of the approach of the enemy, "from ſtation to ſtation, almoſt in an inſtant, for the "courſe of eighty miles. I myſelf," adds Mr. Milbank, "have ſeen the wall, at Thirlwall, and it takes "its direction by Portgate, near Stagſhawbank, by "Halton, near the Long Lane, where both the walls "are apparent; as alſo at Denton, over Benwell-"hill, down to the Weſt Gate, in Newcaſtle." And he concludes by obſerving, "You may ſee it down "the hill, by Mr. Leonard Carr's houſe, (in Pilgrim-"ſtreet, near where Mr. Robſon's inn now ſtands) "and over Walker Moor to Wallſend."

As it does not fall within the plan of our work, which is principally confined to a deſcriptive and ſuccinct account of Newcaſtle, we ſhall not treſpaſs much

much farther, by following and describing the various Roman ſtations that were all along contiguous to this ancient and ſtupendous work. We ſhall only obſerve, from Bede, the venerable hiſtorian of Jarrow, that, upon Severus' wall being broke down in ſeveral places by the barbarians, another was built, with turrets at intervening diſtances, by the Romans, to defend the feeble and enervated inhabitants of their provinces. And as the empire was convulſed through the competition of ſeveral rivals at once for the ſupreme power, the Roman troops took leave of the iſland, about four hundred and ſeventy-eight years from its being firſt invaded by Julius Cæſar. Twenty years afterwards, the Britons, finding the Scots and Picts too powerful for them, ſolicited the Romans to come to Britain to aſſiſt them; but they never returned.

This laſt wall is ſaid by Bede to have been eight feet broad, and twelve high, and was erected on the very ſite of the walls of Adrian and of Severus. It had a great number of towers, or little caſtles, a mile from each other, now called *caſtle-ſteeds*; and on the inſide, fortified little towns or camps, called *cheſters*. The inhabitants tell you, that there was alſo a *brazen* trumpet, or pipe, of which they now and then found pieces, ſo artificially laid in the wall, between each caſtle and tower, that upon the apprehenſion of danger, at any ſingle place, by the ſounding of it, notice might be given to the next tower, and ſo on through the whole breadth of the iſland.——*Vide Bede, as quoted by Camden.*

Mr. Brand, who, accompanied by the ingenious Mr. R. Beilby, in the year 1783, traced the whole extent of the Roman wall, has minutely recorded, in

in the appendix to his hiſtory of Newcaſtle, his diſcoveries of fragments of altars, urns, coins, &c. and ſums up the whole of his obſervations with giving us the names of the various ſtations along the wall, *viz.*

1. Walker, or Wallſend,	in Northumberland.
2. Wall Knoll,	in Newcaſtle.
3. Benwell, alias Benwall,	in Northumberland.
4. Wall-Bottle,	
5. Heddon on the Wall,	
6. Wall Houſes,	
7. Wall Fell, near Bywell,	
8. Wall Side,	
9. Wall.	
10. Walwick-Cheſters,	
11. Walwick-Grange,	
12. Walwick,	
13. Walwick New Houſes,	
14. Wall-Shiels,	
15. Walton-Mill,	
16. Wall-Town,	
17. Thirlwall-Caſtle,	
18. Burnt-Wall,	
19. Wallbours,	
20. Walhome,	in Cumberland.
21. Wall,	
22. Wall-Town,	
23. Walton-Ridge,	
24. Old Wall,	
25. Wall-Head,	
26. Wallby,	
27. Wall-Houſe,	
28. Wall-Know,	

Upon viewing the ruins of theſe once mighty efforts of human art, to ſee the broken fragments of caſtles, temples, palaces, and lofty ſtructures, the mind is ſtruck with ſtrong emotions of a kind of melancholy ſympathy; and it carries our reflections

forward to the conſummation of all things, as deſcribed by the unrivalled Shakeſpeare.——

" The cloud-capt towers, the gorgeous palaces,
The ſolemn temples, the great globe itſelf,
Yea, all that it inherit, ſhall diſſolve!
And, like the baſeleſs fabric of a viſion,
Leave not a wreck behind!"

But our ſenſations are relieved, when we ſee beautiful and fertile fields, covered with golden harveſts, where once ſtood the rampart of huge ſtones cramped with iron; and where fierce warriors conflicted in mortal combat, now the ſcenes of harmleſs bleating flocks, and of ſportive lambs, gambolling in wanton play, along the venerable ruins of camps and entrenchments; as finely pictured by a great poet of nature.——

—— " And leads me to the mountain's brow,
Where ſits the ſhepherd on the graſſy turf,
Inhaling, healthful, the deſcending ſun;
Around him feeds his many bleating flock,
Of various cadence; and his ſportive lambs,
This way and that convolv'd, in friſkful glee,
Their frolics play; and now the ſprightly race
Invites them forth; when ſwift the ſignal given,
They ſtart away, and ſweep the moſſy mound,
That runs around the hill; the rampart once
Of iron war, in ancient barbarous times,
When diſunited Britain ever bled,
Loſt in eternal broil: ere yet ſhe grew
To this deep laid indiſſoluble ſtate,
Where *wealth* and *commerce* lift their golden head;
And o'er our labours *liberty* and *law*,
Impartial watch; the wonder of a world!"

THOMSON'S SPRING.

SITUATION

SITUATION AND EXTENT.

This town, which has made, for ages, a conſpicuous figure among the commercial marts for trade, manufactures, and buſineſs of various kinds, does not impreſs the ſtranger, who approaches it from any direction, with ideas prepoſſeſſing in its favour. A very ingenious correſpondent of the editors of the Monthly Magazine, in his account of it, ſays:

"The ſituation of modern Newcaſtle has probably been determined by its bridge, which, having been originally built by the Romans at this termination of their great north-eaſtern road, has been, from time to time, renewed upon the ſame ſite. This warlike people ſeem to have preferred paſſing over the tops of hills, probably for the ſake of ſtations, from which to overlook and keep in devotion the ſurrounding country. But the objects to be anſwered by a military nation are very different from thoſe of a commercial one, which are beſt promoted by the eaſe and expedition with which goods and paſſengers can be conveyed from one part of a country to another. The great obſtruction to this free communication, and the enormous needleſs waſte of the powers of that noble animal on whoſe exertions we chiefly depend in theſe reſpects, occaſioned by the ſervility with which we ſtill continue to follow the track of our predeceſſors over the elevated barren ridge of Gateſhead Fell, is a ſource of daily mortification to the travellers upon this road. More eſpecially when the view of that ſingular edifice lately built for a patent-ſhot tower at the white-lead works, a few hundred yards above the bridge, which

preſents itſelf to the paſſenger about two miles north of Cheſter-le-ſtreet, cannot fail to convince him of the eaſe with which a perfectly level road might be carried in a ſtraight line from that point to the weſtern extremity of the town. The noble proſpect up the vale of Tyne, which regales the eye of the traveller as he deſcends towards the town from the ſummit of the ridge, may perhaps be pleaded as ſome compenſation for the trouble of its aſcent.

"After the Romans had retired from Britain, it appears that the works which they had here conſtructed were at leaſt ſo far maintained as to continue it a place of conſiderable ſtrength; and that many religious fraternities in the later Saxon times had found in it a ſecure ſhelter.

"But whatever cauſes may have determined the ſituation of Newcaſtle, and however well choſen it may once have been for the purpoſes of ſecurity, it muſt be acknowledged to be ſingularly ill adapted to anſwer thoſe of neatneſs or convenience. To the ſtranger who arrives from the ſouth, after he has been aſtoniſhed, and in ſome degree terrified, by his rapid deſcent through Gateſhead, (now indeed conſiderably mitigated by the circuitous direction of the new ſtreet), immediately on his turning upon the bridge, a precipitous eminence preſents itſelf, which extends along the river weſtward to the extremity of the town, leaving only room for a narrow ſtreet, very properly denominated *The Cloſe;* but cluſtered all the way to the very ſummit of its almoſt perpendicular banks, with houſes built during the turbulent times which preceded the union of the crowns, when the inhabitants naturally crowded as cloſe as poſſible under the protection of the Caſtle. Amidſt theſe houſes

houſes an aſcent is gained to the Caſtle-yard and its precincts by ſeveral lofty flights of ſtairs. This eminence terminates exactly in front of the bridge, which was formerly defended by a half-moon battery, an outwork from the Caſtle, placed upon its ſummit; but this is now loaded with an unſightly maſs of miſerable tenements, five ſtories high, which ſeems to threaten deſtruction to the houſes and ſtreet below. The eaſtern and north-eaſtern ſides of the Caſtle Mount are in like manner crowded with buildings, which being all the way ſtuck cloſe one above another to the very gate of the Caſtle, have obtained, from this circumſtance, the appropriate name of *The Side*.

"The eaſtern parts of the town were ſeparated from the Cloſe and Side by a deep ravine, formed by a ſmall brook or rivulet, which falls into the river a little below the bridge. The lower part of this *dean* or *burn* (for both theſe provincial terms are applied to it) muſt have been arched over for ſeveral centuries, at leaſt as long ſince as the open market-place, called the Sand-hill, has been embanked from the river, and encloſed with buildings. The upper part was left in its original ſtate till about fifteen years ago, when the courſe of its channel was judiciouſly choſen to form a paſſage through the town, on which paſſengers ſhould not be liable to the inconvenience of aſcending either the weſtern bank, through a narrow winding paſſage in the Side, or the eaſtern (ſhortly to be mentioned) by a ſimilar ſtrait and ſteep approach. If the ingenious projector had been allowed to begin his plan a little lower, the aſcent would have been more gradual, and the improvement more complete.

"Oppo-

"Oppoſite to the Caſtle Mount, but at a greater diſtance from the river, the eaſtern ridge terminates with the handſome modern edifice of All Saints' church; and along the back of it, which runs nearly north, is built (within and without the walls) the longeſt and moſt regular ſtreet in the town. Farther eaſtward, another deep ravine is formed by a ſomewhat more conſiderable brook, which, after running for ſome time, enters the town for a ſhort ſpace, though it nearly ſeparates the whole of Newcaſtle, properly ſo called, from its extenſive eaſtern ſuburbs.

"The whole of the level tract within the walls, between All Saints' church and the river, is, perhaps, more cloſely crowded with buildings than any equal ſpace of ground in his majeſty's dominions. It is occupied by no leſs than twenty-one wynds or alleys (here called *chares**), only one of which, called, by pre-eminence, the *Broad*-chare, will admit the paſſage of carts. All the reſt may eaſily be reached acroſs by the extended arms of a middle-ſized man, and many even with a ſingle arm. In ſeveral of them, however, are ſome of (till lately) the beſt houſes in the town, which in the laſt age were inhabited by the more opulent merchants; particularly thoſe engaged in the coal-trade. One of theſe chares can boaſt of being the birth-place of

* A laughable miſunderſtanding happened at our aſſizes ſome years ago, when one of the witneſſes in a criminal trial ſwore, that "*he ſaw three men come out of the foot of a chare!*"—"Gentlemen of the Jury," exclaimed the learned judge, "you muſt pay no regard to that man's evidence; he muſt be inſane." But the foreman, ſmiling, aſſured the judge, that they underſtood him very well; and that he ſpoke the words of truth and ſoberneſs.

of the preſent Lord Chancellor, and his able brother, Sir William Scott. But, of late years, the ſuburbs have been widely extended in all directions, particularly to the north and eaſt; and the buildings in the chares are every day faſt converting into offices, warehouſes, breweries, &c. Many of them are ſtill inhabited by thoſe more immediately engaged in the buſineſs on the quay, as well as by ſailors, keelmen, and carpenters; thoſe latter claſſes chiefly dwell in the eaſtern ſuburbs.

"The town may fairly be reckoned to extend along the banks of the river (from the Skinner Burn to St. Peter's Quay) at leaſt two miles from eaſt to weſt: about one half of this may be taken for the baſe of a triangle, the northernmoſt point of which is near a mile from the bridge; within which, tho' with ſeveral irregularities and vacant ſpaces, the great body of the town may be conceived to be comprehended. The ſtreets in the upper part, at a diſtance from the river, are ſpacious and well built; particularly Weſtgate, Pilgrim, and Northumberland-ſtreets, and the rows and ſquares which adjoin them. The grey colour, however, of the bricks, and the general (though not *now* univerſal) covering of bright red pantile roofs, certainly take off much from their appearance. The pavements are in general very good, and there are excellent accommodations for foot paſſengers; but it muſt be acknowledged, that too little attention is paid to the enforcement of the regulations eſtabliſhed by act of parliament for keeping them clean and neat. Nor can it be ſaid that it is well lighted; the few lamps ſcattered here and there ſerving, as has been well obſerved, only to make "*darkneſs viſible.*"

It

It is certain, that, from its ſite, which riſes gradually, and in ſome places more boldly, from the Tyne, the regularity of the buildings is in a great meaſure rendered impracticable.

GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION.

Grey, in his Chorographia, page 27, tells us, that Camden makes Newcaſtle upon Tyne 22 degrees 30 minutes longitude, and 54 degrees 57 minutes latitude. But, by Dr. Hutton's plan of Newcaſtle, it is placed preciſely in 55 degrees north latitude, and about 1 degree 17 minutes longitude, weſt from London.

NAME.

About the year 445 of the Chriſtian æra, this town occurs under the appellation of *Pons Ælii*, a Roman ſtation, where a cohort of the Cornovii was then in garriſon. This name is evidently derived from that of *Ælius Hadrianus*, the founder of the firſt wall, which that warlike prince affixed frequently to his works.

After a ſilence of near two hundred years, mention (ſays Mr. Brand) again occurs of this place under the new appellation of *Ad Murum* (at the Wall), and the reſidence of a Northumbrian king. It is probable, that, in the time of the Romans, it conſiſted only of a few ſtraggling houſes on the banks of the Tyne, and before the diſcovery of the coal-mines, and other minerals, the principal employment of the inhabitants might be fiſhing. But, upon the Romans quitting the iſland, the weak and feeble natives (who, under the protection of their maſters,

maſters, enjoyed poſſeſſion of the more fertile provinces, but were, by their cruel policy, deprived of the uſe of arms) eaſily became a prey to foreign invaders, and to none more than the Saxons and Danes. The Chriſtian religion had been for a long ſeries of years introduced into the iſland; but in the fifth and ſixth centuries, had aſſumed the gloomy form of ſolitude and retirement, from the buſy and civil haunts of man, to caves and deſerts, and its moſt rigid votaries aſſumed the name of *Monachi*, or *Monks*. The town we are now deſcribing, from the winding of the Tyne, whoſe banks were covered with woods, drew a number of theſe recluſes to the place, and from this circumſtance, and its vicinity to the Roman wall, all antiquaries agree that it got the name of *Monkcheſter*.

It was not (ſays Mr. Bourne) till after the departure of the Romans, that the town got the name of Monkcheſter, as being a place of ſtrength, or garriſoned fort, during the invaſions of the Danes and Saxons. It is to be obſerved, once for all, that the names of all towns or places ending with *cheſter* got that appellation from being a Roman encampment, *caſtrum*, or *caſtra*, being the Latin words from whence *cheſter* is derived. He adds, that this name it retained, till after the conqueſt by William the Norman.

An eccleſiaſtical hiſtorian, *(Eachard)* in his hiſtory of England, ſays, that *Monkcheſter* was ſo called from certain monks, who lived in great auſterity there. And the Monaſticon gives us the following account: "In the year 1074, a certain monk, named Aldwin, a prior from the province of the Mercians, preferring a voluntary poverty and contempt of the

world to all its riches and grandeur, hearing, from the hiſtory of the Northumbers, that their country was inhabited by vaſt numbers of monks and religious men, deſired greatly to viſit the monaſteries of thoſe places, (though he knew that, by the ravages of the pagan Danes and Saxons, they were forſaken and left deſolate) and there, in imitation of thoſe pious men, to lead a life of poverty and retirement. Coming with this deſign, as far as the monaſtery of Eveſham, he made known his purpoſe to certain of the brethren; upon which, two of them aſſociated with him, one named Elfwie, a deacon, the other Renifrid; but he was quite unacquainted with any part of literature. Having obtained leave from their abbot to accompany Aldwin in his pious expedition, the care of the other two being committed to him, they ſet out on foot, having an aſs to carry their books, ſacerdotal veſtments, and all other neceſſaries. At length they came to York, requeſting of Hugh, ſon of Baldrick, then ſheriff, that he would procure them a guide to Monkcheſter, that is, the city of monks; whither being brought by their guides, they ſtaid a while, but found no remains of its former ſanctity, no footſteps of the religious people, who had formerly dwelt there. Walcher, biſhop of Durham, hearing of this, ſent for them, and gave them the monaſtery of Jarray, or Jarrow, which at that time was unroofed, and had ſcarce any thing remaining of its ancient grandeur."

Hollingſhead tells us, that "the Danes, having totally laid waſte the northern provinces with fire and ſword, burned down almoſt all the churches and mona-

monaſteries, and exterminated the prieſts and devotees for the ſpace of two hundred years; ſo that the people, who ſurvived theſe frightful ravages, became ſo ignorant of religion, that they did not know what the name of *monk* meant; and if they ſaw any, they wondered at the ſtrangeneſs of the ſight." He goes on: "One place there was in this country, famous for the habitation of *monks*, from whence it was called Monkcheſter, but that alſo was ſo ruinated and deſtroyed, that when the monks of Mercia (the monks before mentioned) came to it, they found no token or remnant of any religious perſons, who had had an habitation there; all was defaced, and gone."—*Mag. Brit. Nov. & Antiq. ex Holl.*

Mr. Bourne adds, that, "with reſpect to Monkcheſter, this ſeems to be punctually true. It was two hundred years from the ruin of the monaſteries, to this time, after the conqueſt; and in the fourth year of the reign of king Alfred, the Danes, after invading the country, divided their hordes of deſtroyers. King Haldon, in the year 875, with a large diviſion, went to Northumberland, and lay in the winter ſeaſon near the Tyne, where he divided the country among his followers, making not only the whole a deſolation, but by frequent incurſions into the countries of the Scots and Picts, obtained from them alſo abundance of plunder."

Thus it appears from this ancient record, that the monaſteries of Monkcheſter had been in ruins about two hundred years, *viz.* from the year 875 to the year 1074, the time of the coming of the Mercian monk.

This may aſſiſt our enquiries in forming a conjecture *when* Newcaſtle firſt got the name of Monkcheſter. The above mentioned hiſtorian thinks that it was firſt ſo named towards the latter end of the ſeventh century. It was at this period that the *monaſtic* life was introduced among the Northumbers by Aidan, who was that year made biſhop of Northumberland, and had his ſeat at Lindisfern. The biſhop of Hexham, Eata, mightily promoted this pious work, and the country ſeemed filled with monaſteries, particularly the kingdom of Northumberland.

Bourne adds, that when the work of religion went on ſo briſkly throughout the whole country, it is natural to ſuppoſe that *this* place (Newcaſtle), as it was convenient for the monaſtic life, on account of its retirement, ſo it was no leſs eligible on account of its ſtrength and fortifications. Cotemporary hiſtorians ſpeak with enthuſiaſm of the numbers, ſanctity, and devotion of the monks who inhabited Newcaſtle and Gateſhead; and on theſe accounts, it became ſo famous as to change its name to Monkcheſter. Indeed, the prodigious number of the remains of monaſteries, and other religious edifices, to be found at this day in the town, ſeems to juſtify the conjecture of Bourne, that it was from this it had, for ſeveral centuries, the name of Monkcheſter. Very trivial and accidental circumſtances have given riſe to great events, and, not ſeldom, to the names of countries and cities.

Hiſtory, however, informs us, that this place retained the name of Monkcheſter till the building of the caſtle, when it again got another appellation, *viz.* Newcaſtle, which it retains to this day.

The

The occaſion of building this once ſtrong caſtle, and the circumjacent fortifications, is variouſly accounted for. All, who have treated of the hiſtory of this celebrated town, agree, that the caſtle was built in the reign, and by one of the family, of William the Conqueror. As that fierce and intrepid prince had obtained the crown of England by invading the country, and overthrowing Harold in the terrible battle of Haſtings, where that unfortunate prince was killed by an arrow, which transfixed his brain, it was alſo his cruel policy to retain his conqueſts by violence and oppreſſion. For this purpoſe, he not only kept a ſtanding force, conſiſting of ſixty thouſand men at arms, and other numerous bodies of infantry, but filled the whole kingdom with forts and caſtles, which he kept ſtrongly garriſoned. Frequent were the revolts of the oppreſſed and degraded Angles, or Engliſh; but always unſucceſsful. In one of theſe inſurrections, of which the duke of Northumberland was the chief, the ſtandard of rebellion waved upon the walls of the caſtle of Prudhoe, about ten miles above Monkcheſter. William ſent his ſon Rufus, with an army, to cruſh the rebellion; but the rainy ſeaſon ſetting in, he found himſelf obliged to defer beſieging that fortreſs, which was very ſtrong, till the enſuing ſpring; and, wintering his troops in Monkcheſter, in order to keep them employed, ſet about building the caſtle, ſaying, "if we cannot take the *old*,* we will, at leaſt, build a *new* caſtle;" from whence the town is ſaid to have got its name.

Others, with more probability, account for the erecting of this vaſt fortreſs in a different manner. They

* The old caſtle of Prudhoe.

They tell us, that Malcolm (ſurnamed *Can-more*,* from his large head) king of Scotland, having invaded Northumberland with a powerful army, laid waſte the whole country to the banks of the river Tyne. At this time William was in Normandy, along with his ſon Robert, quelling ſome rebellion in that part of his paternal dominions. Upon his arrival in England, being appriſed of Malcolm's invaſion, he immediately ſent that prince with a powerful army againſt the Scottiſh chief. Unable, or unwilling to cope with Robert, who led a well-appointed army, Malcolm retreated towards his own country. Robert's inſtructions limiting his duty only to drive back the invaders, and not to retaliate, he ſet about building this mighty place of ſtrength, with the deſign, not only to be a powerful barrier againſt the incurſions of the warlike Scots, but alſo a place of arms for ſecurity againſt any inſurrection that might happen among the inhabitants in the north.

The ancient Chronicle of Mailroſs ſays, "that the Conqueror ſent his ſon Robert into Scotland againſt Malcolm, in the year 1080, who having done nothing worth notice, upon his return, built *New*-caſtle." Hence we may conclude, that the caſtle was founded the ſame ſeaſon, towards the latter end of the year. Dugdale's Monaſticon likewiſe informs us, that king William (the Conqueror) in the latter end of the year 1080, ſent his ſon Robert into Scotland againſt Malcolm; but, having marched as far as Eggleſbreth, he returned, (having done no exploit) and built the *new* caſtle upon the river Tyne. Such is the ſubſtance of theſe reſpectable authorities, as to the occaſion of building the caſtle, and, in conſequence,

* Derived from the Gaelic, *Ceann*, head, and *mor*, large.

quence, changing the name of the place from *Monkchester* to that of *Newcaſtle*.

William, on this occaſion, ſhewed a moderation not uſual in his political conduct; for although he had been at vaſt expence in building this fortreſs, he was ſo far from levying it upon the town's people, that, on the contrary, he encreaſed and enlarged their liberties and privileges.

From that period, Newcaſtle rapidly encreaſed in population, trade, and wealth; whilſt William, and ſucceeding kings, conferred upon it many privileges and immunities; building, both for uſe and ornament, walls, monaſteries, churches, and bridges; of which, with what other public buildings have ſince been erected, we intend to preſent our readers with a circumſtantial detail, in their order.

THE WALLS.

The wars and tumults, which in early times prevailed in this iſland, made it neceſſary to have recourſe to the aid of walls, gates, and bars, not only for the protection of cities and towns, but almoſt of every private building of any conſequence. The iſland being unhappily divided into two diſtinct independent kingdoms, by the river Tweed towards the eaſt, and by an imaginary line in the weſtern part, jealouſy, interfering intereſts, national pride, and ambition, often were the cauſes of fierce and bloody battles between the two rival nations. The open country was ſoon over-run, while villages and unwalled towns fell an eaſy prey. Newcaſtle, by its trade and encreaſing commercial conſequence, being ſituated near the northern borders of the kingdom, it was

was judged a part of political wiſdom to make it a powerful barrier againſt the incurſions of the Scots, a formidable enemy that the Engliſh had long to contend with.

At ſo early a period, therefore, as in the reign of William Rufus, Hardying, in his Chronicle, informs us, that Newcaſtle upon Tyne was incloſed with a wall. It was built of ſtone, of great heighth and thickneſs, and for many ages was undoubtedly of great ſtrength. As a proof of this, we have only to obſerve, that, although the northern counties were often invaded, and even over-run, by the Scots, yet they were ſeldom able, during the courſe of a century, to make themſelves maſters of Newcaſtle. It had ſeveral gates, wonderfully ſtrong and maſſive; and was ſtrengthened with towers and ſquare turrets, which we will notice in their order. The wall was ſurrounded by a foſs or ditch on the land ſide, which in ſome places is ſtill viſible, as on the outſide of the wall that ſurrounds the Carliol Croft; but in moſt places it is at preſent level with the adjoining ground. The ſpace, however, which it occupied, is ſtill called the "*King's Dykes.*" It appears to have been uniformly twenty-two feet, or a chain, in width. It is claimed as the property of the corporation, to whom every waſte within their juriſdiction devolves, by the authority of their charter.

King John, who reſided frequently in Newcaſtle, was a great benefactor to it, as he not only aſſiſted the townſmen to ſtrengthen their walls, but gave them charters for working coal, and for other articles of commerce. In the year 1299, during the reign of Edward I. a grant was obtained from that prince, to unite Pampedon, or Pandon, with Newcaſtle.

King

King Edward III. granted the cuſtom of goods ſold at Newcaſtle upon Tyne for ſeven years, to contribute towards the reparation of the walls. The ſame king alſo repaired them during his reſidence here, anno 1334.

In the ſeveral ſubſequent reigns, grants for repairing the walls were obtained.

On the 17th of November, 1762, the corporation of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, having ſtated in a petition to government, that that part of the town wall, which extended from the Sand-hill to Sandgate, was no longer neceſſary, nor of any uſe for defence, but a great obſtruction to carriages, and hindrance to the diſpatch of buſineſs, obtained an order of the privy-council to remove it, but at their own coſt.

TOWERS AND GATES.

When the walls had been completed, the town was divided into twenty-four wards, according to the number of gates and round towers in them, which were wont to be defended, in times of hoſtility, by their particular warders. The names of the towers were—

1. Cloſe Gate.
2. White Friar Tower.
3. Denton, or Nevil Tower.
4. Weſt Spital Tower.
5. Stank Tower.
6. Gunner Tower.
7. Pink Tower.
8. Weſt Gate.
9. Durham Tower.
10. Herber Tower.
11. Morden Tower.
12. Ever Tower.
13. Andrew Tower.
14. New Gate.
15. Bertram-Mowboucher Tower.
16. Ficket Tower.
17. Pilgrim-ſtreet Gate.
18. Carliol Tower.
19. Plummer Tower.
20. Auſtin Tower.
21. Corner Tower.
22. Pandon Gate.
23. Wall-Knoll Tower.
24. Habkin Tower.

At this period, ſo remote from the time of the building theſe towers, and when ſome of them have decayed through age, and others converted to places of public meetings for the different companies of freemen, it is unneceſſary, and unentertaining, to give detailed accounts reſpecting them. We ſhall only take notice of ſome of the moſt remarkable.

There was a turret, or tower, fifty-two yards to the ſouth of the Cloſe Gate, adjoining to the river Tyne. The Cloſe Gate, after the fall of the bridge, in 1771, was converted into a temporary priſon, but was lately taken down, by which the ſtreet is much more commodious for the paſſage of large waggons, and other carriages, though yet far too narrow.

From the Cloſe Gate, there are one hundred and forty ſteps, on the top of the wall, as it aſcends a very ſteep hill to White-Friar Tower, at the diſtance of ſixty-nine yards. The common name of theſe is *Break-neck Stairs*, and is of very obvious etymology.

White-Friar Tower had its name from its vicinity to the houſe of the Carmelites, or White Friars. The fraternity of maſons had their hall in the upper apartment of this tower; in the lower one was the meeting-houſe of bricklayers and meters. From the White-Friar Tower to the Poſtern Gate is two hundred and fourteen yards.

It is ſuppoſed by Bourne, that it was from this gate, in the reign of Edward III. that three hundred valiant townſmen ſallied forth ſuddenly, in the night, upon a great army of Scots, who then lay encamped, beſieging the town, put them to flight, and took earl Murray priſoner in his tent.

Next

Next follows Spital Tower, from its vicinity to Weſt Spital, ſuppoſed by Bourne to have been built by the maſter and brethren of that hoſpital, for their protection.

Then we ſucceſſively come to Stank Tower, Gunner Tower, and Pink Tower, and from thence to the Weſt Gate. The three firſt having nothing remarkable to recommend them to attention, we ſhall omit further notice of them.

Weſt Gate is ſtill one of thoſe ſtrong entrances through the town wall. It had been, in former times, ſecured with maſſive gates, of oak beams, and iron doors. Through this lay the track of the Roman wall. This gate conſiſts of four wards, and is ſaid to have been built by Roger de Thornton,* a merchant, who, from very ſmall beginnings, became equally diſtinguiſhed for his wealth and munificence. This place was formerly a priſon for unruly apprentices, and is at preſent the hall of the houſe-carpenters. In the year 1782, a foot-way was opened on the north ſide of this gate.

The hiſtorian Leland calls this gate "a mighty ſtrong thing, of four wards, and an *iron gate*."

The next on the walls, from the Weſt Gate, is Durham Tower, and the diſtance between them meaſures one hundred and one yards.

That next in order is Herber Tower; from thence to Morden Tower is one hundred and fifteen yards. This, in the year 1700, was fitted up as a

* The *little wits* of thoſe times, envying his good fortune, pleaſed the leſs opulent, or probably leſs induſtrious neighbours of Mr. Thornton, with the following ſarcaſtic diſtich:—

"At the Weſt Gate came Thornton in,
"With a hap, and a halfpenny, and a lamb-ſkin."

meeting-houſe, or hall, for the glaziers, plumbers, pewterers, and painters.

We then come to Ever Tower, and the intervening diſtance is ninety-nine yards.

The next on the walls is Andrew Tower, and the diſtance from Ever Tower is one hundred yards. It probably derived its name from its vicinity to St. Andrew's church.

The next tower was built over New-yate, or New-gate. This has been one of the principal paſſages through the walls, and in conſequence ſtrongly fortified. It probably derived the name of New-gate from its being built on the ſite of an old one, which appears to have been called Berwick-gate. There is ſome rude ſculpture on the north ſide of the gate; there are alſo three ancient ſhields of arms,—St. George's croſs—arms of England, with the fleurs de lis ſemee—and the Newcaſtle arms.

A French antiquary, *Troiſſart*, tells us, that the biſhop of Durham, going with a ſtrong body of troops to join the Engliſh army then marching againſt the Scots, when a bloody battle was fought at Otterburn, iſſued out of Newcaſtle at Berwick-gate, now New-gate. This memorable battle was fought in the year 1388.

There is a ſtatue over the gate, in royal attire, with a truncheon or ſceptre in its hand, and a crown upon its head; it is within a niche, or arch, of Roman architecture, and is ſuppoſed to have been placed there in commemoration of James I. who paſſed through Newcaſtle on his way to London, at his acceſſion to the throne.

Here is the common priſon, which is very ſtrong: the condemned hold is truly frightful. The amia-

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ble philanthropiſt, Howard, diſapproves of this priſon, both for its ſituation and inconvenience; but applauds the benignity of the late worthy Sir Walter Blackett, out of the rents of whoſe ample eſtate this place of confinement is plentifully ſupplied with coals. The names of the reſpective gaolers are unintereſting; ſufficient is it to add, that they have in general been men of humanity and ſympathy towards thoſe who were conſigned to their care by the laws.

Mr. Brand obſerves, that Newgate ſeems to have been built before Newcaſtle was made a county of itſelf, and took cuſtody of its own priſoners, who, no doubt, before that time, were confined in the old caſtle of the town, in common with other delinquents of the county of Northumberland. The additional wings or flanks, on each ſide of the ſouth front of this ſtructure, appear to have been erected about the beginning of the laſt century: the portcullis of this gate ſtill remains entire.

The common-council of Newcaſtle, in the year 1676, appointed a miniſter to read prayers every Wedneſday and Friday, and to preach a ſermon to the unfortunate priſoners there once a month, granting, for ſuch benevolent ſervices, an annual ſalary of ten pounds.

In the year 1765, a foot-way was opened into Sidgate, on the eaſt ſide of Newgate, through the town wall, for the convenience of the public; the paſſage through Newgate being, eſpecially in winter, dark, dangerous, and naſty.

The next place of ſtrength to Newgate is Bertram-Mowboucher Tower; the diſtance between them is one hundred and twenty-ſix yards. The

name

name is evidently derived from Bertram Mowboucher, who was repeatedly high ſheriff of Northumberland. The names of public benefactors are juſtly perpetuated, and deſervedly and gratefully remembered.

The next is Ficket Tower, and meaſures, from the laſt mentioned, one hundred and thirty-two yards. This tower has nothing remarkable to claim our notice.

The next worthy of mention is Pilgrim-ſtreet Gate, and the diſtance from Ficket Tower is 137 yards. This being one of the moſt public gates of the town, towards the north, and from whence the greateſt danger generally came, was, accordingly, ſtrongly fortified. As dividing one of the moſt ſpacious and longeſt ſtreets of Newcaſtle, the view of this gate has an unpleaſing effect, for as trade and buſineſs increaſed, large carriages, waggons, &c. find it very difficult to paſs. It is remarkable, that the inhabitants of this ſtreet, ſome years ſince, petitioned the town-council for liberty to pull down the gate, which, it ſeems, was refuſed. Since then, the inhabitants of Pilgrim and Northumberland ſtreets have been applied to by the magiſtrates to remove the ſame gate, and defray the expence, but they, on their part, refuſed to comply with theſe propoſals. It was called, ſays Bourne, *Pilgrim-ſtreet*, from the great number of pilgrims, who, in the days of ſuperſtition, lodged in this ſtreet, coming from every part of the kingdom to viſit the ſhrine of the Virgin Mary at Jeſmond. Over the gate is the hall of the joiners, who repaired it in the year 1716.

Next is Carliol Tower. From Pilgrim-ſtreet gate to this tower is one hundred and fifty-ſeven yards.

Three

Three ſmaller ones intervene between theſe two large towers. Here is the weavers' hall.

The next is Auſtin Tower. This was built by the friars of St. Auguſtine, and the order went by that name. It ſeems to have been erected in the reign of Edward I. The hall is the meeting-houſe of the maſons' ſociety. From Carliol Tower to Auſtin Tower is one hundred and fifty-ſeven yards.

The next is Corner Tower. The diſtance from Auſtin Tower to Corner Tower is one hundred and thirty-two yards. From this laſt to Pandon Gate is ninety-five yards. From Pandon Gate to the Carpenter's, or Wall Knoll Tower, is ninety-five yards. This was evidently of Roman architecture, as the Roman wall ran croſs here, by the Low-bridge, St. Nicholas' church-yard, and through Weſtgate, &c. as has been already obſerved.

From Carpenter's Tower to Sand-Gate is the diſtance of two hundred and thirty-two yards. It was at this gate that the eaſt end of a ſtrong wall, which ran parallel with the river Tyne, joined to Sandgate, and formed an angle. That gate was taken down in the year 1798, by order of the magiſtrates, to widen the ſtreet, which, on account of the vaſt number of carriages, was exceedingly inconvenient and dangerous to foot paſſengers. The wall along the Quayſide had many gates, oppoſite to the ſeveral chares, or lanes, leading into the town. Theſe gates were very ſtrong, and were all ſhut every night, excepting two, which were left open for ſeamen, keelmen, &c. and theſe were well guarded.

It was obſerved by Mr Milbank, in the MSS which he left, that between each of theſe large towers there were generally two leſſer ones, of a ſquare form, with the

the effigies of men cut in ſtone upon their tops, as in a watching poſture, and they were called *Garrets*, having ſquare holes, or apertures, through which to diſcharge arrows, ſtones, and other miſſiles, at a beſieging enemy.

Such is a general account of the once famous walls, incloſing the town and county of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, being about two miles in length. Leland, in his Itinerary, ſays, they were the ſtrongeſt and moſt magnificent of almoſt any in Europe. This is poſſibly ſaying too much; but, from what remains of them any way entire, they muſt have been exceedingly ſtrong, and perfectly capable of ſetting at defiance any enemy, before the invention of artillery. They were at once the ornament and ſecurity of the town. The eye of the antiquary ſurveys them with complacency: the architect applauds the maſſive ſtones, compact cement, iron cramps, ſolid and ſtrong gates, portculliſes of iron, &c. that have once compoſed this mighty barrier. Curioſity views the majeſtic ruins with delight, whilſt the delicate valetudinary, panting for breath, reprobates them, as obſtructing the more free circulation of the ambient air. The man of buſineſs wiſhes them level with the ground, as hindering the paſſage of his waggons, tranſporting valuable bales of goods from one part of the iſland to another. But, ſome centuries ago, had they then lived within their bounds, had they ſeen the adjacent fields gleaming with hoſtile arms, while maſſes of ſtone, arrows, and other weapons of deſtruction, in vain were hurled at their gates, and the daring invaders repelled by the courage and reſolution of the wardours of the reſpective towers; they would have viewed theſe noble efforts of patriotic

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art and induſtry, with ſentiments very contrary to thoſe of indifferenee, or of contempt. But, alas! ſince the invention of artillery, the faſhion of the fight (as the poet ſays) has altered the whole theory of war: and theſe once mighty walls, which two hundred thouſand beſieging warriors could not make themſelves maſters of in the courſe of many months, half a dozen battering cannon, of thirty-two pound ſhot, would drive to duſt in a few hours. The uſe, therefore, of fortifying towns and cities with ſtone walls, is now, in general, unavailing. Scarcely any fortification on earth is impregnable, if we except Malta, which engineers aſſure us is completely ſo. That the gentlemen, who at preſent direct the affairs of the corporation, judge the exiſtence of the town walls to be no longer neceſſary, appears evident, as from time to time they are ſtill diminiſhing them. Now a gate is pulled down, then the wall perforated by ſome new paſſage. At this moment workmen are buſy in ſtriking through a large paſſage for carriages, half way between the Carpenter's Tower and where Sandgate Gate once ſtood. Such changes are incident to all human affairs! *Omnia mutantur, et nos mutamur cum illis!* All things change, and we are changed with them!

HOUSES.

In the year 1781, by the window-ceſs books, it appears, that there were, in the four pariſhes of Newcaſtle, two thouſand three hundred and eighty-nine houſes; but it is to be conſidered, that a great many of theſe were marked as "poor," and were not taken into this general account.

		Houſes.
St. Nicholas' pariſh		444
All Saints pariſh	Sandgate quarter - 495	
	Pilgrim-ſtreet quarter 312	
	Pandon quarter - 202	
	Sand-hill quarter - 137—	
	Total of All Saints - -	1146
St. John's pariſh (within the gates) - - -		433
St. Andrew's pariſh - - - - - -		366
	Total of the four pariſhes	2389

If this account was accurate, we may warrantably ſay, that by the numerous buildings, all around the town, the number of houſes is vaſtly encreaſed in theſe twenty years paſt.

POPULATION.

In conſequence of an act of parliament paſſed in the ſeſſion of 1801, for taking an exact enumeration of the inhabitants of Great Britain, the following returns have been made for Newcaſtle and Gateſhead:

ST. NICHOLAS' PARISH.

Inhabited houſes	501	occupied by 1074 families.
Uninhabited houſes	44	
Total - - -	545	
Males - -	2222	Employed in trade 1037, in huſbandry 2, independent of trade 8.
Females - -	2581	
Total - - -	4803	

PARISH

PARISH OF ALL SAINTS.

Inhabited houſes	1577	—Occupied by 3795 families.
Uninhabited houſes	66	
Total - - -	1643	
Males - - -	6319	Of which number 18 are employed in agriculture, 2995 in trade, and 56 are independent of trade.
Females - - -	8077	
Total - - -	14,396	

ST. JOHN'S PARISH.

Inhabited houſes	619	—Occupied by 798 families.
Uninhabited houſes	11	
Total - - -	630	
Males - - -	2037	Of theſe, 15 are employed in huſbandry, and 9 are independent of trade.
Females - -	2598	
Total - - -	4635	

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH.

Inhabited houſes	446	—Occupied by 998 families.
Uninhabited houſes	12	
Total - - -	458	
Males - - -	1771	Of theſe, 847 are engaged in trade, 36 in agriculture, and 36 independent of trade.
Females - -	2689	
Total - - -	4460	

So that, according to theſe returns, the preſent population amounts only to the following numbers:

All Saints - - - - - -	14,396
St. Nicholas' - - - -	4,803
St. John's - - - - -	4,635
St. Andrew's - - - -	4,460
Total - - - - - - -	28,294

PARISH OF GATESHEAD,

INCLUDING THE FELL, OR COMMON.

Inhabited houſes	1037	—Occupied by 2099 families.
Uninhabited houſes	64	
Total	1101	
Males	3974	Employed in agriculture 90, and in trade 1679.
Females	4623	
Total	8597	

TOTAL POPULATION.

Newcaſtle	28,294
Gateſhead	8,597

The above returns of the population of Newcaſtle and Gateſhead have excited univerſal ſurpriſe, the number of inhabitants, upwards of forty years ago, being reckoned at fifty thouſand; and it is well known the town has encreaſed in buildings, both uſeful and ornamental, above one-third within the laſt twenty years.

It is therefore manifeſt, that there muſt have been ſome great miſtake either in the former calculations, or in the recent ones. No blame, we are certain, can attach to the reſpectable gentlemen employed in making the enumeration: they could have no motive in deceiving the legiſlature reſpecting the real population. If, then, there is an error in the groſs return, we are inclined to believe it originated with the people themſelves; for, as the buſtle of buſineſs in Newcaſtle puts it out of the power of the inhabitants to attend much to acts of parliament, and the lower claſs being unacquainted with the real intention in making this general ſurvey, a conſider-

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able part of them erroneouſly imagined that it was to be followed up by a capitation-tax! Impreſſed with this frightful idea, very many perſons are ſuppoſed to have given returns of at leaſt one-third leſs than the actual number. Added to this, inmates, travellers, ſoldiers, and vaſt numbers of ſea-faring men, were generally omitted.

Another argument, which ſtrongly tends to prove the inaccuracy of the recent enumeration, is, that Newcaſtle has for many years paſt ranked as the third or fourth town in England, both for wealth and commercial importance, and of courſe for population. Beſides, ſuch has been the influx of people from the interior, in theſe times of preſſure, that it is with the utmoſt difficulty dwelling-houſes can be obtained, even at very advanced rents.

Theſe obſervations, we preſume, may juſtify the former calculations of the population at fifty thouſand to have been founded in truth; and, for the above reaſons, we may venture to ſtate the real number of the inhabitants of Newcaſtle, with the populous borough of Gateſhead, to be near ſixty thouſand.

Dr. Hutton ſays, that this great number of people is ſupplied with all kinds of proviſions from the very plentiful markets of the town; here being uſed annually, in his time, above 5,000 beeves, or oxen and cows, 10,000 calves, 143,000 ſheep and lambs, with ſwine, fiſh, poultry, eggs, butter, hams, bacon, &c. from the neighbouring counties in prodigious abundance. The market days for corn are Tueſday and Saturday. *See his Survey of Newcaſtle.*

STREETS,

STREETS, &c.

From the local ſituation of Newcaſtle, the old ſtreets and alleys ſeem to have been very irregular; thoſe of a more modern date are a little better planned, paved, and executed.

QUAY, OR KEY-SIDE.

The wall that was here being taken down, the quay, in conſequence, has been ſo enlarged and improved as to become one of the largeſt, longeſt, and moſt commodious wharfs in the kingdom. It meaſures, ſays Bourne, 103 rods; yet ſo prodigious has the ſhipping of the port of Newcaſtle encreaſed of late years, from almoſt all nations, particularly the northern, that, extenſive as it is, it is found often inſufficient, and the veſſels can only come to the Quayſide to unload in their turns. A ſcheme has lately been handed about, to make it ſtill more commodious, by ordering all the wherries to unload *above* the bridge, making a quay from the Skinnerbourn foundery to the Lead Stairs, to include two arches of the bridge, and to have the dwelling-houſes there converted into warehouſes. The above plan would be more eſpecially neceſſary, ſhould a canal from the eaſt to the weſt ſea ever be cut. The names of the chares leading from this place to the Butcher Bank, Pandon, &c. are familiar enough to the inhabitants; and it would afford ſmall gratification to others to be told that one is called Broad Chare, another Grindon Chare, another Peppercorn Chare, &c. They are twenty-one in number; but, although their

their appearance has little to recommend them, yet there are abundance of ſtorehouſes and lofts for corn, and indeed for valuable commodities of every kind. The weſt end joins the bridge, and about the middle of the quay is the cuſtom-houſe, a ſtately building, which ſhall be deſcribed in its proper place.

SAND-HILL.

This part of the town, the ſcene of ſo much buſineſs, derives its name, we are told, from its being a *hill* of naked *ſand*, where the inhabitants uſed to aſſemble for recreation. We are alſo informed, that at high water the tide uſed to carry ſmall veſſels up part of the Side to the foot of the Dean, (now Dean-ſtreet) over which the Roman wall paſſed, by the Low Bridge. By this it would appear that the Tyne was broader and larger in former times than it is now. Nor is this at all improbable. We all know that the whole iſland was almoſt covered with wood, when the Romans firſt invaded Britain. Philoſophers tell us, that trees and foreſts are powerful alembics, and that their foliage ſtrongly attracts the moiſture in the clouds, which, diſtilling on the ground, forms rills, rivulets, and flowing inceſſantly into rivers, greatly encreaſes their quantity of water. We are told, that ſince the cutting down of the huge foreſts of America, and clearing the grounds, on the banks of their large rivers, the waters are conſtantly decreaſing, in proportion as theſe natural alembics are removed. This may have been the caſe with the river Tyne. However, the Sand-hill has ſuffered a happy transformation, as from a hill of barren ſea ſand, it has become the great market-place of New-

caſtle,

caſtle, ſurrounded with rich and ſpacious ſhops, abounding with every kind of valuable and uſeful merchandize.

On the ſouth ſide of the Sand hill ſtood the hoſpital called *Maiſon de Dieu*, or Houſe of God. Here were maintained a warden, being a prieſt, nine poor men, brethren, and four poor women, ſiſters. This ancient edifice was founded about the beginning of the reign of Henry the Fourth. The celebrated Roger de Thornton, the munificent benefactor of Newcaſtle, and its repreſentative in Parliament, was the founder of this charitable inſtitution. The houſe was dedicated to St. Catharine.

A royal licence was obtained from king Henry IV. dated February 12th, 1403, to enable Roger de Thornton, burgeſs of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, to alien in mortmain, to the mayor, ſheriff, aldermen, and commonalty of that town, a piece of ground, one hundred feet in length, and twenty-four in breadth, within ſaid town, wherein certain poor perſons were to be provided with meat and clothing, in a "Houſe of God," to be built by the ſaid Thornton; and where they ſhould pray daily for the health of the ſaid mayor, ſheriff, &c.; as alſo for that of the founder, while he lived; and, after their reſpective deaths, for their ſouls, and the ſouls of the father and mother of the founder, and thoſe of all the benefactors of that intended hoſpital.

By the name of the warden, brethren, and ſiſters of the hoſpital of St. Catharine, called Thornton's Hoſpital, they might plead, and be impleaded, in all courts, and have a common ſeal. In ſubſequent reigns, there were additional emoluments beſtowed upon the *Maiſon de Dieu* of Thornton, till ſir Richard

ard Lumley, of Lumley Caſtle, in the county of Durham, knight, a deſcendant of Thornton, by the female line, conveyed, June the 1ſt, 1624, to the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, and their ſucceſſors, forever, all that building of ſtone, covered with lead, ſtanding near to the water of Tyne, and to the eaſt part of the chamber of the ſaid town of Newcaſtle, being anciently part of and belonging to the hoſpital of St. Catharine the virgin, commonly called Thornton's hoſpital. This grant is evidently made after the diſſolution of the hoſpital itſelf.

It ſeems by Speed's plan of Newcaſtle, that the *Maiſon de Dieu* was the firſt public place, or building, marked on the Sand-hill, through which Lorkburn is repreſented as paſſing, on the eaſt ſide. It has ſince that time been arched over.

In this place ſtand the Exchange and Town-court, *(ſee public buildings)* built between the years 1655 and 1658. Bourne ſays, that an old town-houſe was firſt built, where the preſent one ſtands, by the ſame powerful and benevolent Roger Thornton.

In the middle of the Sand-hill, fronting the Exchange, there was erected a ſtatue of king James II. caſt in copper, of the ſize of the famous equeſtrian ſtatue of Charles I. at Charing-croſs, London. In the convulſed ſtate of the nation, the inhabitants, incenſed at the tyranny of James, pulled down his ſtatue, and threw it into the river, in the year 1688, the celebrated æra of the reſtoration of Britiſh liberty. The ſtatue, however, was ſaid to be a maſterly piece of art, caſt by Mr. William Larſon, and approved of by Sir Chriſtopher Wren. It coſt the town eight hundred pounds. Upon the acceſſion of

William prince of Orange to the throne of Britain, when the ferment of men's minds had ſubſided, the magiſtrates ordered the ſtatue to be taken out of the river; but not thinking it prudent to replace it in its former ſituation, they probably put it to a better uſe, by converting it into a ſet of bells. Before the alterations made upon the Exchange, a few years ago, and while the ſteeple was ſtanding, a ſtatue of Charles II. in Roman habit was placed in a niche upon a pedeſtal, in the front of the Town-houſe. On pulling down the ſteeple, the ſtatue was removed, and placed in the weſt end of the Exchange, in the area where gentlemen meet for buſineſs and converſation.

Paſſing the entrance to the quay, where was the Water-gate, there is now a lofty pile of buildings, eight ſtories high, for the purpoſe of depoſiting goods of different kinds, which, by means of a powerful crane, are eaſily either taken on board the ſhips at the quay, or conveyed to the wharf. The preſent warehouſes were erected in conſequence of the former buildings being, a few years ago, nearly deſtroyed by fire.

Adjoining to the Exchange, and cloſe to the bridge, is the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr.—(*See churches, &c.*

THE OLD BRIDGE.

It is obſerved by Mr. Bourne, that the building now under conſideration was of great antiquity, undoubtedly as old as the times of the Romans. It was an invariable rule in the policy of that people to cement all the provinces of their vaſt empire by moral

ral and natural means. Hence it is, that wherever their victorious legions extended their dominions, there we find military ways, arches, bridges, forts, and caſtles, not only to facilitate the march of their troops to the remoteſt parts of their empire, but to find uſeful employment for their ſoldiers during the intervals of war, and to compenſate the natives, in ſome degree, for the loſs of their liberty. The Tyne being a large river, interſecting the Roman province, this political people would, no doubt, ſecure a paſſage over that river, by a bridge, in the conſtruction of which claſs of architecture they were great maſters. Accordingly, we find (by the laudable reſearches of ſeveral antiquaries, as eminent for their veracity, as for their erudition) this matter ſettled to a demonſtration. Dr. Hunter, a great modern antiquarian, affirms, that he had obſerved a military way, going off from Watling-ſtreet, near Bincheſter; which, he ſuppoſes, went to Cheſter-le-ſtreet, and that it ran on towards Newcaſtle.

Dr. Stukeley, in his Iter Boreale, or Northern Journey, ſpeaking of Gateſhead, ſays, "the Roman road here, which is the true Herman-ſtreet, coming from Suſſex, and running down Gateſhead Fell, paſſes in a ſtraight line to the bridge." Another Itinerary, by Richard of Cirenceſter, traces "the Roman military way from Catterick, in Yorkſhire, to Bincheſter, in the county of Durham, where it branches out into two different itinera, or ways, one of which ſtretches out towards Falkirk, in Scotland, by the way of Corbridge, Ebcheſter, &c. while the other, paſſing through Cheſter-le-ſtreet, terminates in the Roman wall, at Newcaſtle upon Tyne."

Pennant, in his tour, ſays: "I cannot help thinking, that part of the Roman bridge remained there (at Newcaſtle) till very lately; for, from the obſervation of workmen upon the old piers, they ſeemed to have been originally formed without any ſprings for arches, which was the manner of building uſed by the Romans." Here alſo were found coins and medals, of Trajan and ſeveral other Roman emperors, in the innermoſt parts of the ruins of the old bridge; all which demonſtrate it to have been of Roman work. The emperor Ælius Adrianus ſpent moſt of the years of his reign in viſiting, ornamenting, and fortifying all the provinces of the empire; and it was this prince who connected the forts erected by Agricola, in Britain, by raiſing the great vallum, that in this part of the iſland extends nearly from ſea to ſea, and was probably the firſt who built the bridge at Newcaſtle. From which circumſtance, (ſays Mr. Brand) the ſtation it led to, from the Roman road, was afterwards called Pons Ælii, and, at this day, Ponteland, from his own name Ælius.

Matthew Paris informs us, that in the year 1248, a terrible fire happened at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, by which the greateſt part of the town and the bridge were deſtroyed. From this dreadful event, Mr. Bourne tells us, the town of Newcaſtle joined the biſhop of Durham in erecting a bridge of ſtone, that deſtroyed by the fire having been conſtructed of wood. For this purpoſe, a method was fallen upon, very common at that time, viz. by ſelling indulgences to all perſons, who would aſſiſt them, either with money or labour, to rebuild the bridge. Accordingly, numbers, from the remoteſt parts in Scotland to the land's-end, readily made purchaſes of indulgences;

dulgences; by which, together with numerous donations from the opulent and liberal, both in Newcaſtle and other parts, the bridge was built a-freſh. It is from this period, that the biſhops of Durham were firſt bound to keep in repair a third part of the bridge at Newcaſtle.

The archbiſhop of York, the biſhops of Durham, Caithneſs, (in Scotland), and Waterford, (in Ireland), all contributed, in the year 1257, by the ſale of indulgences, towards this common benefit, of building Tyne bridge.

In the year 1339, part of this bridge was carried away by a ſudden inundation, and from a curious fragment of parchment, accidentally found, having eſcaped the deſtructive fury of the riot in 1740, it appears, that one hundred and twenty perſons were drowned on this awful occaſion.

But, although the advantage and neceſſity of this bridge were obvious to all, we find in the hiſtory of thoſe times repeated complaints of its ruinous and dangerous ſtate, and a repreſentation holds out, in the year 1370, that it would take more than a thouſand pounds to repair it.

In the year 1416, Thomas Langley, biſhop of Durham, recovered from the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, the third part of this bridge, adjoining to Gateſhead, in the county of Durham, together with a tower, which that body had built thereupon.

To fix the proper boundaries between the counties of Newcaſtle and Durham, a blue ſtone was placed, which being carried away by the flood, 1771, in paving the new bridge, a layer of larger ſtones is laid

quite

quite acroſs the bridge; which fixes the boundary of Newcaſtle ſouthwards.

It is remarkable, that in the year 1429, a recluſe appears to have lived in a hermitage upon Tyne bridge; and the good Roger Thornton, in his will, appointed him one of the thirty prieſts he had ordered to ſing for his ſoul, with a bequeſt of ſix marks annually. The ſame year, the above-mentioned worthy gentleman left an hundred marks for the reparation of this bridge, on this ſingular condition, "if ſo that the mayor and commons will releaſe me of all actions, as that I never hindered them, nor nought aw them, at my witting; but this I deſire, for the eſchewing of clamour." So that malice might even level its ſhafts againſt good Mr. Thornton himſelf.

About the year 1550, ſays Mr. Brand, the very marvellous event, related by Bourne and others, concerning Mr. Anderſon's ring dropping by accident over the bridge as he was fingering it, is ſaid to have happened; and this very identical ring was brought back again, ſome time after, in a fiſh bought in Newcaſtle market by a ſervant of the above gentleman, and moſt unexpectedly reſtored to its owner.

Bourne tells us, that the "gentleman, from whoſe finger the ring fell, was mayor of Newcaſtle, and anceſtor of the preſent Mr. Abraham Anderſon, merchant, on the Sandhill. The ſaid Francis Anderſon made over his eſtate to his ſon Henry Anderſon, who was the father of the ſaid Abraham Anderſon's grandfather." He adds, "On the inſide of the ring, juſt under the ſignet, is the picture of a ſalmon, in commemoration of the fiſh and the tranſaction; on the one ſide is the letter F. and on the other the letter A. in commemoration of the perſon; calling it, at the ſame

ſame time, a curioſity ſo great, that not only the whole kingdom cannot ſhew the like of it, but the whole world beſide."

This ring, ſays Brand, is at preſent, A. D. 1783, in the poſſeſſion of Mr. Edward Anderſon, merchant, who permitted him to take a drawing of it, with an impreſſion on wax of the ſignet. This Mr. Edward Anderſon is a deſcendant of the perſon to whom the accident happened, and has a deed of family property, the ſeal of which exhibits an impreſſion of the ſignet of this memorable ring, and is of a date prior to the ſuppoſed date of this moſt extraordinary, but by no means incredible, event.

But to return to our hiſtory of the old bridge. As this was a chief entrance from the ſouth into Newcaſtle, it was, of conſequence, ſtrongly fortified at both ends. Near the middle was a tower, with a large ſtone, having the town's arms on it, placed on the ſouth front. There is thought to have been anciently a chapel in this tower; for, on taking it down, after the fall of the bridge, a ſtone coffin and a ſkeleton were found. This tower ſerved as an ordinary priſon, where diſorderly and looſe perſons were kept, till they were examined by the mayor; and if their crimes were of conſiderable magnitude, they were committed to Newgate, till the quarter ſeſſions or the aſſizes.

Grey's account of Tyne-bridge, in his Chorographia, is to the following effect:—It conſiſteth of nine arches, high and broad, having many houſes and ſhops, and three towers upon it. The firſt on the ſouth end, the ſecond on the middle, and the third on Newcaſtle ſide, lately built upon an arch in the bridge, uſed for a magazine for the town, and an old chapel.

chapel. Such is a general account of this very ancient bridge, founded at firſt by the Romans, and repaired and rebuilt afterwards by the inhabitants on both ſides of the river. We now go on to relate its final cataſtrophe. This memorable event happened on Saturday night, preceding the 17th of November, 1771. There had been a prodigious fall of rain, chiefly in the weſt, filling all the brooks, and ruſhing from the higher grounds into the Tyne, ſo ſwelled the river, as to make it overflow its uſual boundaries, and every where carrying deſtruction in its irreſiſtible progreſs. It was about eleven at night the water began to riſe at Newcaſtle, and conſtantly encreaſed till ſeven the next morning. About three o'clock the arches of the bridge were filled up with floats of wood, ſwept away by the flood from the adjacent banks; and between three and four in the morning, two of the arches on the ſouth ſide were driven down, and one, which was the northernmoſt, adjoining to the toll-ſhop, fell about four o'clock, burying the houſes which had, for many years, been erected on them, together with ſeveral of their inhabitants, in the ruins. Imagination can more eaſily fancy, than words deſcribe, the terror and amazement with which the people were ſeized, on ſeeing their friends and acquaintances, from the houſes yet ſtanding on the remaining arches, ſtretching out their hands, and with ſhouts of diſtreſs imploring aſſiſtance, expecting every moment to be overwhelmed in the watery waſte! The lives of Mr. Peter Weatherly, ſhoemaker, and his family, were fortunately ſaved by the humanity and intrepidity of two bricklayers from Gateſhead, who, at the moſt imminent perſonal hazard, broke through the walls of ſome buildings that

hung

hung together by the aid of the timbers after the arches had fallen, and ſucceeded in reſcuing them from their moſt perilous ſituation. The waters gradually ſubſiding, other perſons were providentially brought off in boats.

It is worthy of remark, that a houſe built of wood, inhabited by a family named Patten, was carried down the impetuous ſtream to Jarrow-ſlake, a diſtance of ſeven miles, in an entire ſtate, with a dog and cat, both alive, in one of the rooms. The family had happily effected their eſcape previouſly to the arches falling.

So general had this ſtorm been in the northern and indeed in moſt parts, of the kingdom, that melancholy accounts of its ravages were publiſhed every where. Solway Moſs, in Cumberland, was raiſed from its bed, and, by a prodigious fall of rain, was impetuouſly forced towards the ſea, and covered ſeveral hundred acres of land about eighteen feet deep, to the ruin of many families. All the bridges upon the river Tyne (Corbridge excepted) were carried away. From Alſton-moor to Shields, ſcarcely a village eſcaped its fury. Prodigious was the loſs to many individuals, in horſes, cows, ſheep, corn, wood, &c. But in Newcaſtle, by the arches of the bridge being filled, the waters burſt through the alleys into the Cloſe, and, ruſhing down that narrow ſtreet, overflowed the Sand-hill for ſeveral feet deep, filling many cellars and ſhops, ſo that the loſs was eſtimated at above two hundred thouſand pounds. Such was the fate of the old bridge of Newcaſtle. Reſpecting the new erection, and the improvements now making, *ſee public buildings*.

The common-council of Newcaſtle, January 20th, 1772, framed a petition to parliament for leave to bring in a bill, for erecting a temporary bridge, and another of ſtone, over the river Tyne; as alſo for monies to be granted them, to defray the expences neceſſary for ſuch a work. Another, ſimilar to this, was agreed on February 6th, 1772, and preſented to parliament.

In the ſame year, an act of parliament paſſed to enable the lord biſhop of Durham, and his ſucceſſors, to raiſe a competent ſum of money, to be applied to the repairing, rebuilding, and improving ſuch part of Tyne bridge as belongs to the ſee of Durham. This was to be done by raiſing twelve thouſand pounds, to be ſecured by granting annuities upon lives, not exceeding ten per cent.

A committee of gentlemen, by the name of the bridge committee, entered upon terms with Mr. Stephenſon, carpenter, to erect a temporary bridge, limiting the time for its execution to four months, to be reckoned from June 18th, 1772, under a heavy penalty. On the 17th of July following, the workmen began to drive the piles, and the bridge was opened October 27th, the ſame year. It anſwered almoſt every purpoſe of the inhabitants. Waggons, however, fully loaded, were not allowed to paſs over it.

THE CLOSE.

Purſuing our courſe of obſervations weſtward, and paſſing the bridge-end on the north, we arrive in a ſtreet called the Cloſe. It probably had this name from its narrowneſs. At this day it preſents us with nothing

nothing ſtriking, either as to its ſituation or buildings: yet Mr. Bourne aſſures us, that in former times it was the reſidence of ſeveral noble families, and opulent inhabitants. Sir John Marley, Sir William Blackett, Sir Mark Milbank, and the houſes of many other gentlemen of diſtinction, he adds, are ſtill remembered by the ancient inhabitants. The inſides of the houſes beſpeak their former magnificence and grandeur; the rooms being very large and ſtately, and, for the moſt part, adorned with curious carvings. Of late, he obſerves, thoſe houſes have been forſaken, and their wealthier inhabitants have choſen the higher parts of the town.

The houſes of the earl of Northumberland ſtood on the ſide of this ſtreet next the river, bounded on the eaſt by Bower-chare, between Tyne bridge and the Javel Groop. Bourne ſays, even in his time it had a great gate at its entrance, with a large round ball of ſtone; and hence the entry has been vulgarly called the "Round Stone Entry;" and that in the lower part of the building, towards the water, were manifeſt tokens of antiquity. In the year 1482, Henry earl of Northumberland demiſed it to his ſervant, George Bird, by the name of the Earl's Inn, under an annual rent of thirteen ſhillings and four-pence. As the Northumberland family have long poſſeſſed large demeſnes on the river Tyne, it is poſſible, that the cauſe of that noble family having a houſe in a ſtrong ſituation in Newcaſtle might be, to be in readineſs to defend, by collecting their tenants and vaſſals, their collieries and lands, and other property, againſt the inroads of the moſs-troopers, and other deſperate marauders, very common in thoſe days.

The next opening to the river Tyne, from the ſtreet, is called the Javel Groop; where the ſtreet, of late years, has been greatly widened. The etymology of this word is, ſays Mr Brand, from groope, or grype, which ſignifies a ditch; and Javel, is only a corruption of jail, or gaol. The old caſtle was, for ages, the common priſon for the county of Northumberland, and here has probably been, anciently, the communication between the ditch or foſs of the caſtle and the river Tyne.

On the right hand, after paſſing along the Cloſe, we obſerve a flight of ſtairs, called Caſtle-Stairs. On each ſide, as we aſcend, are ſhops, principally for old clothes, old ſhoes, boots, &c. and, after a tireſome aſcent, by many a weary ſtep, we arrive at a poſtern, where had been gates, and pieces of fortification, in defence of the caſtle. Another flight of ſtone ſteps, ſome paces further to the weſtward, is called the Long-Stairs; remarkable only for their gloomineſs and nuiſances; but they terminate, on the upper end, with ſeveral good houſes, handſomely built.

Further along is another flight of ſtairs, exactly oppoſite the manſion-houſe, called the Tuthill-Stairs, terminating at the foot of Weſtgate-ſtreet. Bourne imagines it ſhould be called Touthill, from the touting or winding a horn upon it, when an enemy was at hand. Mr Brand will have it, that it properly ſhould be called Toothill, or Hill of Obſervation.

One of the moſt early meeting-houſes for worſhip in Newcaſtle, was half-way up theſe ſtairs, in which ſome baptiſts uſed to aſſemble, with a well for immerſing adults. It is now a dwelling-houſe. And a little higher up the ſteps, a new baptiſt chapel, with a fine commanding proſpect, was lately erected by that

that people. The congregation is ſaid to be numerous, and of decent deportment, with a ſtated paſtor among them.—*See churches and chapels.*

Almoſt adjoining to the manſion-houſe, is another meeting-houſe, or place of worſhip, in which aſſemble a congregation, with their miniſter, attached to the principles of the church of Scotland, and is ſaid to be numerous and reſpectable. Their terms of communion differ from thoſe of the other diſſenters in Newcaſtle.

But the edifice that principally draws the attention in the Cloſe, is the MANSION-HOUSE.—*See public buildings.*

This building Mr Bourne terms, "A building grand and ſtately, and, conſidering its ſituation, is very ornamental." Its foundation was laid in the year 1691, and coſt the corporation 6000l. beſides the neceſſary furniture and utenſils. Upon the election of a new mayor, annually at Michaelmas, he generally quits, for the year of his mayoralty, his own private houſe, and takes up his reſidence in the manſion-houſe, commonly making no change among the male ſervants there. He is allowed a handſome ſtate-coach, a barge, in which he, attended by numbers of other gentlemen of the corporation, perambulate the river, on Aſcenſion-Thurſday, and is ſupplied with a genteel ſalary, to ſupport his expences, by the corporation.

It is in this manſion that the judges of aſſize, with their attendants, are entertained, during the time of their reſidence here on their circuit.

There uſed to be given by the newly elected mayor, a public entertainment, on Michaelmas Monday. The body of freemen at large generally thought them-

chimney-piece, some fragments of ancient armour are well worth being seen by the curious antiquary.

The history of several other houses in the Close, which bear the marks of venerable antiquity, and probably were once the abodes of festivity and opulence, having fallen into decay, or been converted into warehouses, is, of consequence, uninteresting.---But it is to be observed, that it is near the place where the Close-gate stood, that the extensive glass-manufactories are to be seen, and where the white-glass is made in the most beautiful manner; which not only brings a large revenue to government, (as will be seen in its place) but, next to the coal, is a chief source of the wealth of this opulent town.

WEST GATE,

Or the Street that leads to the West Gate.

It has been already observed, that on account of the vast number of religious that flocked to the town, the subject of this history, it got the name of Monkchester, or the town of the monks, with which it seems to have abounded, of all orders and denominations. In modern times, after the ancient and opulent families, for the most part, had quitted the lower streets on the Quay and in the Close, and retired to the higher parts of the town, both for the circulation of purer air, and for other conveniences, they chiefly settled in Westgate, which, till the buildings in Pilgrim-street, Savile Row, &c. was the principal place of residence. The street itself is airy, and has many handsome and well-finished houses, generally inhabited by a single family, now having beautiful

beautiful pieces of ground flower plots, &c. backwards. We will only make ſome curſory remarks upon the private buildings. In this part of the town ſtood the

BLACK FRIARS.

This order, named, ſays Bourne, *Black Friars*, *Preaching Friars*, and *Jacobine Friars*, arrived in England A. D. 1262 and 1268. They took their name from St. Dominick, the founder of the order, a Spaniard by birth. Their monaſtery ſtood near the foot of Weſtgate-ſtreet, near to White Friar Tower, and was called the Houſe of the Friars of the Sac, or of the penance of Chriſt.

This very ancient monaſtery was founded by Sir Peter Scott, who was the firſt mayor of Newcaſtle in the year 1251, and by Sir Nicholas Scott, his ſon, who was one of the four bailiffs of the town. But the ſite was given by three ſiſters, whoſe names Mr Bourne laments are ungratefully loſt.

The exact time of its being founded and finiſhed is uncertain; but it muſt, adds the ſame authority, have been earlier than the 8th of the reign of Edward I. as that prince granted a licence to the black friars to break a door through the new wall into their garden, and ſo their priory muſt have been built ſome time before. The ſame author obſerves, that it had been a ſtately and very beautiful building, as appears by its preſent remains. The area, or graſs-plot, is about 87 feet in length, and the ſame in breadth. On the eaſt ſide was the chapel, which is now the hall of the company of ſmiths. On the weſt ſide was a curious old well, which ſerved the

monaſtery with water, and was called our Lady's Well. On the north was their garden, before the building of the town wall, in that ward. Their garth extended from Weſtgate to Tyneſide, ſays Leland.

Many were the gifts and endowments conferred upon this ancient monaſtery, by kings, nobles, biſhops, and opulent private perſons; among the latter was the beneficent Roger Thornton, who generouſly ſupplied them with lead for repairing the roof of the priory; but it would be unintereſting to the generality of our readers to inform them of their names and families.

It is to be obſerved, however, that notwithſtanding the darkneſs which ſuperſtition had ſpread over the Chriſtian world in the 12th century, when few of the clergy could read their breviary, much leſs interpret the ſcriptures to their flocks; yet ſome gleams of the light of learning began to dawn, and diſpel the gloom; and in this receptacle of recluſes there were ſome men of talents far from being contemptible.

Among the more enlightened, ſays the famous John Knox, of Scotland, in his valuable hiſtory of the reformation, was one Richard Marſhal, prior of the Black Friars in Newcaſtle upon Tyne. Happening to come to St. Andrew's, in Scotland, about the year 1551, he choſe for the ſubject of his diſcourſe a moſt material point of doctrine, viz. Whether the *Paternoſter* ſhould be addreſſed to ſaints departed? which he conſidered as implying ſupreme adoration, but which he decided to be applicable only to the ſupreme Being. This diſcourſe raiſed a great ferment in the minds of many of the great doctors of that univerſity: while they ſaw, with concern, that the opinion

opinion of prior Marſhal was exceedingly agreeable to many of the principal people of the audience.---- To cruſh this embryo of hereſy, they employed one Tofts, a white friar, to impugn the poſitions of Marſhal; who accordingly mounted the ſacred roſtrum, and obſerved, "When we ſee an old man, we ſay to him, *pater*, or father; and if he be a relation in the family, we ſay, our father, or *pater-noſter;* and in the ſubſequent parts of that addreſs, he was ſtill more inſufferably ridiculous, ſo much ſo, that the whole audience run out of the church with indignation; and having become the ſcoff and jeſt of the town, he quitted it with ſhame and diſgrace.

Mr Knox mentions another incident upon this doughty conteſt, equally diverting, and no leſs deciſive. The prior, in preparing to go to the cathedral, was modeſtly aſked by his ſervant, who was helping him on with his canonicals, what might be the cauſe that ſeemed to give him ſo much uneaſineſs? He replied, with a ſigh, "We are, Tom, quite at a loſs, whether we ſhould ſay the *Pater* to departed ſaints. "Hut, hut," replies Tom, bruſhing his revered maſter, "ſay the *Pater* to God alone, and give the ſaints *aves* and *credos* their fill, and with ſuch they may think themſelves very well off." The prior, laughing heartily at Tom's divinity, added, "I do not know but you may be right."

When Henry VIII. actuated by enmity to the pope, and ſtill more by a love to the immenſe treaſures found in the dens of theſe *poor brethren*, was ſuppreſſing all the monaſteries in his dominions, this of Black Friars ſuffered the ſame fate of the others. Accordingly it was ſurrendered, as it was termed, on January 10th, 1551, to the king, and the prior and

brethren turned out. But his Majeſty was pleaſed to make a grant of the Black Friars' monaſtery to the town of Newcaſtle, in conſideration of their paying fifty-three pounds ſeven ſhillings and ſixpence; together with the houſe, chapel, and other conveniences, the two gardens, the whole cloſe within the Weſtgate, another cloſe of three acres of land, and a houſe called the Gate-houſe.

As the ſuppreſſion of the monaſteries throughout England was an event little expected by the ſee of Rome, and eſpecially by Henry, a zealous papiſt, we ſhall here ſubjoin a copy of the ſurrender, by the priors, abbots of the monaſteries, unto the king's power; which ſtrongly deſcribes the terror with which that mighty tyrant ſtruck the whole clergy of his realm.

A COPY.

" Foraſmuch as we, the prior and friars of this houſe of brethren, called Black Friars, in Newcaſtle, do profoundly conſider, that the perfection of Chriſtian living does not conſiſt in ſome ceremonies, wearing of a black cloak or coat, diſguiſing of ourſelves after ſtrange faſhions, docking, and becking, wearing ſcapulars and hoods, and other like papiſtical ceremonies, wherein we have been moſt principally practiſed and noſe-led in times paſt; but the very true way to pleaſe God, and to live a true Chriſtian man, without hypocriſy, and feigned diſſimulation, is ſincerely declared to us by our Maſter Chriſt, his evangeliſts and apoſtles; being minded hereafter to follow the ſame, conforming ourſelves to the will and pleaſure of our ſupreme head, under God, on earth, the king's majeſty; and are not to follow, henceforth, the ſuper-

ſuperſtitious traditions of any forenſical potentate or power—with mutual aſſent and conſent, do ſubmit ourſelves unto our ſaid ſovereign lord; and, with the like aſſent and conſent, do ſurrender," &c. &c.

Signed by the prior and ſix friars.

How mortifying muſt it have been to the clergy of thoſe times to comply with ſuch an arbitrary mandate, to be driven from their rich and ſumptuous reſidences, and expoſed to the contempt and hootings of the verſatile and indiſcriminating multitude!—Yet even this alternative was preferable to being inſtantly put to a cruel and dreadful death; which would infallibly have been the reward of diſobedience to the royal will and pleaſure, as ſome fatally found.

ST. MARY's HOSPITAL.

This religious foundation is of high antiquity, although the year in which it was erected is not exactly known; but it is certain that it was during ſome period of the long reign of Henry II. Originally it conſiſted of an hoſpital and a chapel, and, like innumerable other religious ſtructures, was dedicated, in theſe days of ſuperſtition, to the *Virgin Mary*. It owed its exiſtence to the pious and benevolent Aſelack, of Killinghowe, or Killingworth; who gave, by charter, the ground on which it was built, with other endowments, for the maintenance of two friars regular, and a chaplin, to ſerve *God and the poor*. This amiable philanthropiſt had obſerved, with concern, that genuine worth, in the lower orders of the clergy, was often neglected, and the afflicting ſituations of the indigent claſſes of mankind were too often overlooked: to ameliorate the condition of both, as far as it was in his power, was good Mr Aſelack's deſign in found-

founding this aſylum. The wandering pilgrims too, here found refreſhment and repoſe. The generous inhabitants of Newcaſtle thought ſo favourably of this charitable inſtitution, that they made a large addition to the Hoſpital of Our Lady, for ſupporting a maſter and a chaplain, to ſay divine ſervice for ſix bede-folk in the alms-houſe, to lodge poor and wayfaring people, and to bury thoſe who happened to die there; and to fence them againſt the rigours of winter, nine chaldrons of coals were diſtributed among them, to the value of thirty-three pounds fifteen ſhillings.

With ſuch a favourable eye did the public at large view this humane inſtitution, that numerous and ample benefactions to it poured in from all quarters. Princes, prelates, nobles, merchants, opulent tradeſmen, whoſe names are minutely recorded by Mr Brand, dedicated lands, houſes, ſhops, &c. to the fraternity of this hoſpital. And in the courſe of ſome centuries, from its being founded by Mr Aſelack, we find, by a rental taken of it previous to the abolition of the order by Henry VIII. that it had property in Weſtgate, Denton-chare, Pudding-chare, Meal-market, Fleſh-market, Bigg-market, Middle-ſtreet, without Newgate, in St. Nicholas' Church-yard, before the Caſtle-gate, in the Side, on the Sandhill, in the Cloſe, in Pilgrim-ſtreet, Manor-chare, Pandon, All-Saints-ſtreet, White-croſs, rents of gardens without the Cloſe-gate and in the Forth; all in or contiguous to Newcaſtle. But it extended its intereſt far and wide in the adjacent counties; to Jeſmond, Whickham, Whittonſtale, Fenham, Newſham, Bolam, Old Heaton, Woffington, Mearsſen, Horton, and Stewkley, Newbiggen on the Moor, Byngfield, Stam-

Stamfordham, Hewght, Little Babington, and in Riddeſdale.

We have been the more particular in this enumeration of the ſources of the wealth of this religious inſtitution, as it was not then more famous for its hoſpitality, (and probably too, in later times, for its monaſtic indolence and luxury) than for a ſeries of years paſt it has been more juſtly celebrated as a ſeat of learning, for acquiring ſcience and poliſhed manners.

As the revenues of this hoſpital increaſed, ſo the number of brethren, bede-men, pilgrims, &c. was proportionably enlarged; and for the better government of whom, maſters or priors preſided in St. Mary's.

That this foundation was of very remote antiquity, appears from the donation to it made by Lord de Bolbec; where, among the witneſſes to the deed, no mention is made of any mayor of Newcaſtle as atteſting it; and indeed it was previous to the exiſtence of a ſupreme magiſtrate in that corporation.

To this we may add, that at a period ſo diſtant as A. D. 1290, we find the brethren of this hoſpital petitioning the king in parliament, and ſetting forth, that, as the new town-wall of Newcaſtle had been built through the middle of their court-yard, leaving the greater part of their edifices on the outſide thereof, humbly praying permiſſion to make a poſtern-gate of communication through the ſaid wall; which was granted them, and which gate exiſts to this day, by the name of the Poſtern Gate.

But all human inſtitutions have, ſooner or later, a termination; and this among others, where it is to be ſuppoſed, ſcenes of charity and benevolence were exhibited for ages, was overthrown by the ſtern Henry VIII. who was, by theſe means of violence and rapine, giving

giving incurable wounds to the papal power, while he was daily ſwearing by the *Mother of God*, (his common oath) that he would maintain it with all his might. So inconſiſtent is often the conduct of tyrants! but which are ſo frequently over-ruled by the Sovereign of the univerſe, to promote the beſt intereſts of the human kind.

This was particularly exemplified in the happy transformation which the Hoſpital or Spital ſuffered, in being converted to a ſeat of uſeful knowledge, under the title of

THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

This celebrated ſchool was at firſt ſituated on the north-eaſt ſide of St. Nicholas church, in the large area, called the church-yard, and before the burying-place was railed in. In the 42d year of queen Elizabeth's reign, it by charter from that princeſs became a royal foundation, and was removed to the hoſpital of St Mary, its preſent ſituation. Elizabeth was, on many occaſions, an encourager of learning, and ſhe poſſeſſed a large ſhare of erudition herſelf. In this charter, ſhe expreſſes her motive for encouraging the grammar ſchool in Newcaſtle, was, her regard for the inſtruction of youth from their tender years in the rudiments of the true Chriſtian religion, in learning and good manners. She enacts, that the foundation be ſtyled the Free Grammar School of queen Elizabeth; the maſter and ſcholars whereof are to be a body corporate in law, with perpetual ſucceſſion; to have a common ſeal, and a legal capacity of purchaſing and holding lands to themſelves and ſucceſſors in fee ſimple, or for a

term

term of years, provided they exceed not the value of forty pounds, are not held of the crown in chief, or by military ſervice, notwithſtanding the act of mortmain. Seven of the governing part of the corporation, (the mayor and ſix aldermen) are appointed the patrons of this ſchool, with the power of electing a maſter and uſher thereof; whoſe offices are held under their pleaſure, and, on every vacancy or removal by death, are to be filled up by them."

Such is the charter, which ſanctions all the privileges of the free grammar-ſchool of Newcaſtle.

Animated by this royal encouragement, and knowing that future ſucceſs to their newly-erected inſtitution greatly depended upon a prudent election of their maſter, the patrons invited Robert Fowberry, A. M. to be the firſt in that office. He is ſaid, by his cotemporaries, to have been a gentleman of great eminence for learning, and attention to the improvement of the ſcholars.

Edward Wigham ſucceeded Mr Fowberry, who, on his death, was ſucceeded by Francis Grey, A. M.

It was under this gentleman that the famous lieut. colonel John Lilburn received part of his education. "I was brought up, ſays he, (in his Innocency and Truth Juſtified) well nigh ten years together, in the beſt ſchools in the North, namely, at Auckland and Newcaſtle; in both which places *I was not one of the droneſeſt ſchool-boys there:* and beſides my knowledge of the Latin tongue, I was a little entered into the Greek alſo. And at Newcaſtle, I did not only know, but alſo was known of the principal men there."

This celebrated character, who made a conſiderable figure in the long parliament, was, however, of a ſin-

gular caſt of temper. If colonel Lilburn learned logic among his other acquirements at Newcaſtle, he certainly had made great proficiency. Being of ſuch a diſputatious turn, that having written againſt almoſt every public perſon, he at laſt wrote againſt himſelf, which occaſioned the wits of thoſe times to obſerve, that if Lilburn was confined to a deſart he would ſtill write, were it only John againſt Lilburn, and Lilburn againſt John, which the ſatyrical lines in Hudibras probably allude to, viz.

So keenly given to diſpute,
Tho' changing ſides, he'd ſtill refute.

About the year 1637, Amor Oxley was appointed maſter in this royal ſeminary; but living in the convulſed times of Charles I. and on his eſpouſing the royal ſide, the lords and commons, dreading his infuſing principles hoſtile, as they ſaid, to liberty, diſplaced Mr Oxley from his maſterſhip of this grammar-ſchool.

Little is ſaid of his ſucceſſor, Nicholas Augur, who reſigned his charge in 1647 on account of his ill ſtate of health; but he was ſucceeded by one of the greateſt and worthieſt characters that adorned this ſeminary of learning. His name was George Ritchel, who was inducted into the maſterſhip of this ſchool in the year 1648. An account of the life of this very extraordinary perſon is given at great length, by that indefatigable biographer, Wood, in his Athenæ Oxonienſis, of which it would be a ſhameful omiſſion not to preſent our readers with an abſtract.

"George Ritchel was born in Bohemia, 1616, and at the age of ſeventeen years was ſent to the univerſity of Straſburg, where he ſtudied ſeven years. Upon

Fer-

Ferdinand II. from a miſtaken zeal, baniſhing all his proteſtants from his dominions, Mr Ritchel, preferring a good conſcience to the enjoyment of a fine eſtate, made it over to his younger brother, reſerving only out of it as much money as would ſupport him on his journey. He then came to England, and for ſome time ſettled at Oxford. But the civil war in England breaking out, he went to the Hague, Leyden, and Amſterdam; and after viſiting many countries on the continent, he again came over to England, and arriving at Oxford, he entered himſelf a member of Trinity College in Kettle-Hall. Here he ſpent moſt of his time in the Bodleian library, in the moſt ardent purſuit after knowledge. From this univerſity he was invited to be head maſter of the grammar-ſchool in Newcaſtle. The corporation were ſo pleaſed with his perſon and ſervices that they added 10l. to his ſalary yearly. From Newcaſtle he got an invitation to the church at Hexham, where he was both miniſter and lecturer for twenty-eight years. The humility of this learned and great man was one of his moſt ſhining virtues. Born of genteel parents, heir to a fine eſtate, and, for ſome time tutor to the ſons of the prince of Tranſylvania, of the imperial family of Auſtria; in the enjoyment of all theſe he became daily more humble, unaffuming, and uſeful, in every part of his life. He departed this life at Hexham, December 28, 1683, where he lies buried in the chancel of the church. He wrote many learned and critical works."

Upon the reſtoration of the Stuart family, Amor Oxley was appointed a ſecond time maſter to the grammar-ſchool in Newcaſtle, and for his loyalty

his ſalary was increaſed to one hundred pounds per annum, with other perquiſites.

Paſſing over the names of ſeveral others, we ſhall only mention the following:

James Jurin, M. A. was appointed maſter of the grammar-ſchool in Newcaſtle in 1710, where he gave lectures on experimental philoſophy. During his reſidence there he amaſſed near 1000l. and obtaining a degree in phyſic, he became M. D. F. R. S. and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and preſident of the College of Phyſicians. After paſſing through many honourable ſtations in the learned world, he died in Lincoln's-inn-fields in 1750, and bequeathed a large legacy to Chriſt's Hoſpital, where he had been educated by that noble charity.

Sept. 26, 1715, Edmund Lodge, clerk, was appointed maſter, on the reſignation of Dr. Jurin.

Mr George Carr was under-uſher to Mr Lodge. He was afterwards removed to the new epiſcopal chapel in Edinburgh, where, for a ſeries of years, he performed all the ſacred duties of his ſtation with univerſal approbation, and left behind him, on his death a collection of ſermons which did him great honour, both as a ſcholar and a chriſtian.

In the ſame year the Rev. Robert Tomlinſon, D. D. was appointed maſter of this Hoſpital. He was alſo prebendary of St. Paul's in London, rector of Whickham, maſter of the chapel of St Thomas upon the Bridge-end, likewiſe of the hoſpital of St Mary Magdalene at the Barras-bridge, and the great literary benefactor of Newcaſtle, by the donation of his ineſtimable library, of which, with the *copy of his will*, &c. we intend to gratify our readers with a faithful account, in its proper place.

Richard

Richard Dawes, A. M. ſucceeded Mr Lodge, on his reſignation. He was a man of conſiderable learning, but had wild and extravagant notions, which, with a refractory temper, occaſioned the ſchool to be almoſt totally deſerted.

In 1749, Hugh Moiſes, A. M. was appointed head maſter. That reverend and amiable character demonſtrated, by a ſweetneſs of temper (the very reverſe of his predeceſſor) by ſolid and poliſhed learning, and by an uniform tenor of conduct, how winning theſe accompliſhments are; for they endeared him to the warmeſt and moſt reſpectful eſteem of his numerous pupils, to the marked approbation of the patrons in the magiſtracy, and to the veneration of all ranks and conditions of the inhabitants.

In the year 1778, John Brand, A. B. the celebrated antiquarian, and author of the Hiſtory of Newcaſtle, in 2 vols. 4to. was appointed firſt under-uſher, and in 1781, uſher in this grammar-ſchool.

He was ſucceeded, 1784, in his uſherſhip, by Moſes Manners, A. M. and ſoon after, Robert Wilſon, A. B. was appointed under-uſher.

In June, 1787, Edw. Moiſes, A. M. was appointed head-maſter, on the reſignation of his worthy and much-eſteemed uncle. As Meſſrs Moiſes and Wilſon are ſtill officiating in their reſpective ſtations, we have only to expreſs our warmeſt wiſhes for their ſucceſs in the diſcharge of their duties, emulating the virtues of ſome of their illuſtrious predeceſſors.

To cheriſh this admirable inſtitution, Lord Crewe left a large legacy for ſcholars taught in Newcaſtle grammar-ſchool, to be ſent to any of the two univerſities of England.

Dr.

Dr. Smith bequeathed the intered of 800l. to Emanuel College, in Cambridge; half of which is for the maintenance of a ſcholar, either from Durham or Newcaſtle ſchool. Other legacies and donations have been made for the ſame purpoſe.

We hope our candid readers will not think us tedious in our deſcription of this ancient ſeminary of learning. If the eye of the naturaliſt is dazzled with beholding beds and plots of flowers and plants, ſpringing, blooming, and ripening into maturity; how ſurpaſſing is the view of a well-governed nurſery of young pupils, gradually acquiring and ſtoring up in their tender minds, thoſe principles of ſcience and of virtue which, when properly cheriſhed, burſt forth with energy and luſtre on the ſtage of human affairs! Or, as the poet——

> Delightful taſk; to rear the tender thought,
> To teach the young idea how to ſhoot,
> To pour the freſh inſtruction o'er the mind,
> To breathe th' enlivening ſpirit, and to fix
> The gen'rous purpoſe in the glowing breaſt?
>
> THOMSON'S SPRING.

Or, with another poet,—

> Yet, nurs'd with ſkill, what dazzling fruits appear!
> E'en now, ſagacious foreſight points to ſhow
> A little bench of *heedleſs biſhops* here,
> And there a *chancellor* in embryo,
> Or *bard* ſublime. SHENSTONE.

To omit the numerous and diſtinguiſhed characters who have received their firſt principles of erudition at this famous ſchool, we ſhall only obſerve, that it was ſaid, that here the great biſhop Ridley, the martyr, was educated; afterwards, Akenſide the poet; and, among many others, who now fill conſpicuous ſtations

ſtations in public life, are the preſent lord high chancellor, with his learned brother, Sir William Scott; ſo very applicable are the three laſt lines of Shenſtone!

HOUSE OF THE CARMELITES, OR WHITE FRIARS.

For ſecurity, in the earlier ages, moſt part of the religious houſes were ſituated nigh the Roman wall; and, after Newcaſtle was walled round, they were commonly founded adjacent to that barrier. Accordingly we find, in the topography of Newcaſtle, that numbers of the religious had their reſidences on the WALL-KNOLL; a ſituation eligible, as well for ſafety as for health, and commanding alſo a beautiful proſpect of the circumjacent country. Here, hiſtory tells us, the Carmelites, or White Friars, firſt ſettled, upon their arrival at Monkcheſter, now Newcaſtle. They were termed Carmelites, from Mount Carmel, in Syria, where the founder of their order had his firſt reſidence. They are ſaid to have firſt come to England A. D. 1240, and ſettled at Ailesford, in Kent, and there to have had their firſt chapter. Others hold, that they landed in Northumberland A. D. 1250; and ſettled at Holme, now called Huln-Abbey, near Alnwick, which the noble family there keeps in good repair. In the neighbourhood is a hill, called Mount Carmel, which travellers aſſure us has a great reſemblance to that in Paleſtine. Here a hermit had his reſidence, of whom there is a ſtatue of ſtone placed where his cell formerly was. The Carmelites, ſays Bourne, were firſt brought into the north of England by Ralph Freeborne, and by him fixed near Alnwick, in a place called Holm, in a wilderneſs, which

which their conductor imagined to be a place that bore a ſtrong reſemblance to Mount Carmel, in Syria. He himſelf was, adds the ſame author, the firſt provincial of this order, and began his rule A. D. 1240, and ruled fourteen years. He lies buried at Alnwick.

On their arrival at Wall-Knoll, they received ſeveral marks of royal bounty; but, being ſtraitened for room in this ſituation, and finding their houſe too ſmall, as part of their premiſſes were pulled down to make a ſite for the town-wall, then building, King Edward I. granted to the White Friars of Newcaſtle this place of the Friars of the Penance of Chriſt, on condition of their granting to Walter de Carlton, the then only ſurviving brother of that order, a decent maintenance. Mention is made of their having received ſeveral donations, called pittances, in thoſe days, from King Edward I. and King John: one day, ſixteen ſhillings and eightpence; another pittance of nine ſhillings, from king Edward I. on his paſſing through the town of Newcaſtle. Theſe ſums from royal munificence, ſound trifling in our ears; but the value of money was high to what it is now; and by gifts, rents of lands, houſes, &c. theſe *begging brethren* wallowed in wealth, luxury, and indolence.

Even here, however, where ignorance reigned, there ſeems to have been ſome men of learning. In the year 1450, Edward Dynley, as Bayle informs us, born of a good family in Newcaſtle upon Tyne, and a learned writer of the order, flouriſhed in this monaſtery. The ſubjects on which he treated, are, however, at this day, accounted trifling and unimportant.

Doctor Nicholas Durham, who rendered himſelf famous among his cotemporaries, for his zeal againſt the tenets of Wickliff, had alſo his reſidence in this convent, A. D. 1360. The

The convent of the White Friars ſuffered the fate of all the other convents and monaſteries in England, being ſuppreſſed by Henry VIII.

The White Friars' Tower derived its name from being oppoſite to this monaſtery; and were it not for this tower, we would find it difficult to aſcertain where it formerly ſtood, as ſcarcely a veſtige of it now remains.

It was dedicated to St. Mary; who, as Speed informs us, was patroneſs of above thirty priories, of the order of the Carmelites, or White Friars, in England. Indeed, that holy brotherhood pretended to have had more than human intercourſe with the Bleſſed Virgin; they had juſtly then more than an ordinary claim upon her protection. But, alas! they found it of little avail againſt the rapacious hand of Henry VIII.

Further up Weſtgate, on the ſide of the ſtreet next the town-wall, is a large houſe, with a front and two wings, of great antiquity. It was termed Bolbeck-Hall, but changed its name, upon its founder being created Earl of Weſtmoreland, to that of Weſtmoreland-Place, where that nobleman fixed his town reſidence. It ſtands nearly oppoſite the end of Pudding-chare; and was purchaſed by the late Geo. Anderſon, an enterpriſing and opulent maſter-builder, in whoſe family it ſtill remains.

THE GREY FRIARS, OR MINORS, CALLED ALSO FRANCISCAN FRIARS.

The ſituation of this religious foundation can now ſcarcely be known. However, it is probable its ſite may be nearly traced; for we find a ſtreet

which leads from Newgate-ſtreet, near the New-Gate, to Pilgrim-ſtreet, and which ſtill retains the name of High Friar-chare, to diſtinguiſh it from Low Friar-chare, which communicated with the Weſt-Gate. Here, it is moſt likely, the monaſtery of the Black Friars formerly ſtood.

Leland informs us, that the "Obſervant Friars' Houſe ſtood by Pandon-Gate. (He miſtook it for Pilgrim Gate) And the building, he adds, is a very fair thing."

It was adjoining to the High Friar-chare that the houſe of Grey Friars, or Minors, called alſo Franciſcan Friars, ſtood, and from whom the ſtreet derives its name. They were one of the moſt eminent of the four orders of Mendicants. The celebrated St. Francis was their founder; and from him this order was honoured with the derivative Franciſcan, from his name Francis; which, in that reign of Monkiſh dominion, was accounted an honour ſuperior to that of imperial, or any civil title on earth. Yet no inſtitution could be, apparently, more ſelf-denying, more mortifying to the gaieties, and even the conveniences of life. They were termed Mendicants, (beggars) from depending entirely upon the benevolence and charity of the generous and humane. Before any could be admitted into this order, they were obliged to give a convincing proof of the diſintereſtedneſs of their motives, by "ſelling all they had, and giving it to the poor." They were termed Friars Minor, that is, leſs; leſs than all others! And, no doubt, like the apoſtle Paul, "leſs than the leaſt of all ſaints!" Truly modeſt!

That they might indiſputably appear to be ſo, they wore a looſe garment, of coarſe cloth, reaching to the ancles,

ancles, with a cowl, and a grey cloak over it, when they went abroad. They girded themſelves with cords, and went bare-footed, and thus obtained the name of Bare-footed Friars; while the Black, and Carmelite, or White Friars, who wore ſhoes, were termed Shod Friars. It is well known that there is a large church at this day in London, called Crutched Friars, where a *neceſſary* part of the accoutrements of the holy brotherhood was, *a pair of crutches!*

But, under all this humble guiſe, under this veil of ſelf-denial, a world of pride lay concealed. For, by a thorough knowledge of the human heart, and inſinuating themſelves into the favour of the great and powerful, they thereby directed, at pleaſure, moſt of the temporal as well as ſpiritual concerns of Chriſtendom: and the moſt powerful engine of papal art which they employed was, getting themſelves confeſſors to princes, nobles, and, indeed, to all the wealthy and the great. By this means, the Mendicant became not only the moſt powerful, but the moſt opulent of all the numerous orders of the papal hierarchy. For what perſon, however exalted his rank in ſociety, would riſk damnation, by refuſing confeſſion of all his tranſactions to a prieſt. However, the order of the Franciſcan Mendicants had their eſtabliſhment firſt in Newcaſtle, under the patronage of the opulent family of the Carliols, who were wealthy merchants, in the reign of Henry III.

The ſite of their monaſtery muſt have been ſomewhere in the garden of the late Sir Walter Blackett, Bart. and moſt probably in that part of it which lies oppoſite to Ficket-Tower. Mr Bourne aſſures us, from ancient records, that they were a conſtituted body ſo remote as anno 1267.

To give a further proof, how deeply Newcaſtle was intereſted in monaſtic inſtitutions: at a general chapter of this order, held at Narbonne, in France, A. D. 1258, it appeared, that the Engliſh province had ſeven cuſtodies, whereof the cuſtody of Newcaſtle containing nine convents, was one; and were all as follow, viz. Newcaſtle monaſtery, in Northumberland, Dundee, Dumfries, and Haddington, in Scotland; Carliſle, in Cumberland; Hartlepool, in Durham; Berwick, in Northumberland; Roxburgh, in Scotland; and Richmond, in Yorkſhire. Alas! Newcaſtle, how ſorely haſt thou been prieſt-ridden, in thoſe times of monkiſh domination!

It is of little conſequence to our readers to be acquainted with the names of the priors, &c. who reſided in this monaſtery. But that it was not altogether barren of learned men, appears from our being informed, that Hugh of Newcaſtle, termed by the critical Bayle, the *ſcholaſtic doctor*, and whoſe fame was celebrated through all Chriſtendom, flouriſhed in this houſe A. D. 1284.

But the moſt ſingular and renowned character of that age was alſo one of the minors in this houſe before A. D. 1300. And, if it is not intereſting, it is at leaſt amuſing, to be acquainted with his name, his country, and a few ſpecimens of his talents, by which he acquired ſuch hard-earned reputation.

His name was John Scott, or Dr John Scott. The epithet of diſtinction by which he was honoured, was that of *Subtilis Doctor*. And his patronymic name was that of Duns, to which was added Scotus, or Duns Scotus.

Leland, from certain old records in Merton college, Oxford, gathered, that this celebrated doctor was born

born in the pariſh of Emeldon, in a hamlet or manor-place belonging to that college, called Dunſtan, in Northumberland; from whence, by contraction, he got the name of Duns: his father's name was Scott. What is curious, the place belongs to Merton college to this day. Such is the Engliſh account of the etymology of the name and place of birth of this celebrated perſon.

But the Scots, ſo tenacious of their national honour, and zealous for the reputation of their learned men, will by no means yield the palm to their Engliſh rivals in fame, and to this day inſiſt that the town of Dunſe, in the county of Berwick, give birth to this illuſtrious, literary luminary; can ſhew the houſe where he was born; who was the *midwife!* and, *what miniſter* baptized him; and, for ages, the ſtrife for the honour of giving birth to Duns Scotus was as fierce as the contention among the five ſtates of Greece was of old for the honour of giving birth to Homer. We, poor editors, dare not venture upon the mighty ſubject to offer a conjecture, far leſs a deciſion of the high conteſt, and we truly ſay,

Non noſtrum inter vos tantas componere lites.

We dare not preſume to decide in the mighty ſtrife.

But with the moſt profound reverence, and humble reſpect, we cannot but obſerve the Caladonians ſeem to have the ſtrongeſt evidence in their favour, as the inſcription on his tomb "*Scotia me genuit,*" *Scotland gave me birth*, ſeems inconteſtibly to prove that he was a Scotſman. Yet even here we are checked, and again reminded by the learned *Fuller*, that nothing was more common than to conſider, anciently, Northumberland as comprehending all the lands from the Humber to Edinburgh Frith.

So

So here, we are loſt again, and involved in almoſt worſe than Egyptian darkneſs! Adhuc ſub judice lis eſt; the matter reſts quite undecided ſtill! "I believe, ſaid a lady, in Scotland, looking gravely at two vaſt volumns of evidence, on the tea table, on the Douglas' cauſe, one affirming that the claimant of that princely dukedom was the legitimate ſon of Sir John Stuart, and of Lady Jane Douglas, and ſo the duke's nephew; the other, proving that his reputed father was a monſtrous liar, and that the child was a barber's brat of the city of Reims. I believe ſaid the good lady, that this affair (and we may ſay ſo too with a ſigh, of the birth of Scotus) will never be ſettled till the day of judgment! And I am afraid, my dear, ſaid her huſband, with a ſmile acroſs the table, there will be ſo many other cauſes of much higher concern, to be tried, that the court will be cloſed before the Douglas cauſe comes on.

It only remains to give ſome account of the literary abilities of Doctor Subtilis. The title of *doctor* he juſtly merited, as he was a great maſter of the learned languages, and wrote huge volumes of Commentaries, not only on the ſcriptures, but upon the Maſter of Sentences, Ariſtotle's ten Catagories, &c.

He was juſtly termed *Subtilis*, as he had the peculiar talent of making every ſubject appear myſterious; or to be known only by logical, or dialectical diſquiſitions. He could puzzle the profoundeſt doctor to ſolve ſuch important queſtions as Whether Adam was formed with an umbilical cord, or not? Whether Eve was formed of a rib from Adam's right or left ſide? Whether this rib was one of the abdominal, or thoraical ribs? Whether Eve conceived in a ſtate of innocence,

or

or not? With ſuch diſquiſitions did he ſo ſtrike the learned of the middle ages, that he divided the whole ſchools in Europe into two great claſſes, the *Scotiſts*, of which he was the head or leader, and the Thomiſts, the followers of Thomas Aquinas, an equally formidable leader.

The monaſtery of the Franciſcans was diſſolved with others in the year 1539, It then conſiſted of the prior, John Crayforth, eight friars, and two novices. Their monaſtery was found quite deſtitute of the abundance of luxuries found in other convents. So that they did not falſify their appellation of Friar-Mendicants.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL

For the Nuns of Newcaſtle.

Already we have obſerved that Chriſtianity fixed its reſidence in Monkcheſter, at a very early period. The fervour of the zeal, the ſimplicity and diſintereſtedneſs of the lives of its teachers, attracted the notice, not only of the maſs of the people in general, but, Bede, the father of our eccleſiaſtical hiſtory, aſſures us, that, to vaſt numbers of converts were added, Oſwy, the king of Northumberland, who had his reſidence at *Ad Murum*, (now Newcaſtle) and who by his perſuaſion, prevailed upon Penda, king of Mercia, as alſo Sigibert, king of the Eaſt Angles, to receive the initiatory rite of baptiſm. From that period, almoſt the whole iſland, adds the ſame venerable authority, renounced paganiſm, and received a doctrine, ſo worthy of the Supreme Being, breathing good will to men.

But

But, unhappily for its converts, devotion aſſumed a new form; and from frequenting the chief places of concourſe, it retired from the buſy ſcenes of life, to woods, caves, and ſolitary retreats. And in no part of England did this take place more than at Newcaſtle; the adjacent woods, the windings of the Tyne; and the ſecurity of an aſylum by the ſtrong fortifications of the place, all contributed to draw numbers of devotees to Monkcheſter, the name by which the town was known ſome centuries before the Norman conqueſt.

On the introduction of monaſtic orders, with whom not only the reliques of ſaints (ſays Mr Brand) but alſo the ſcenes of great conſequence to religion, were held in the higheſt eſtimation, it ſeems no improbable conjecture that a place conſecrated to the warm imaginations of theſe well meaning zealots, by circumſtances ſo remarkable as then took place, ſhould be accounted ſacred in more than a common degree; if we farther unite the idea of perſonal ſafety, expected in what had been ſo recently a Roman fortification, and ſo often reſorted to in times of the Daniſh invaſion, with that of ſanctity affixed to it by ſomething not unlike ſuperſtition, it ſeems natural to ſuppoſe that theſe ancient devotees would prefer it on both theſe accounts. Hiſtory indeed informs us, that Monks in vaſt numbers crowded to it from various parts, not only of this iſland, but alſo from foreign nations. But the ruthleſs bands of Daniſh invaders, deſpiſing the idea of local ſanctity, with which its then inhabitants were impreſſed, and undaunted at the military works, left for the defence of the feeble natives, like an irreſiſtible torrent, carried all before them, marking their deſtructive progreſs with havoc and deſolation.

Matthew

Matthew Paris, of Weſtminſter, informs us, "that in the year of grace 800 an army of Daniſh pagans ravaged and ſpoiled the church of Tynemouth, (as we will ſee when treating of that once magnificent priory) carrying off the ſpoil inſtantly to their ſhips. That ſixty-ſeven years afterwards the ſame cruel victors depopulated the whole province of Northumberland, to the mouth of the river Tyne, and ſubjugated the whole country. As alſo, three years afterwards, the noble monaſteries on our coaſt, of Lindisfern, Tynemouth, Gyrway, (Jarrow) and Weremouth, were utterly plundered and deſtroyed."

The monaſteries of Monkcheſter being thus deſtroyed, with almoſt every memorial of their former exiſtence, by the bloody Danes, who exerted their ruthleſs fury principally upon edifices conſecrated to religion, the ruins of that place ſeem to have been unnoticed and forgot, till about the middle of the eleventh century, when they were viſited from motives of religious zeal, by Aldwine, monk and prior of the monaſtery of Winchelſea, accompanied in this perilous journey by Elwins and Reinfridus, two monks of Eveſham, as we have deſcribed in a former page. By the zeal and energetic exhortations of theſe devout ſtrangers, the inhabitants were aroufed from their criminal apathy; and a revival was given to monkery in this part of the iſland, after it had been extinguiſhed for about two hundred years.

It has ever been obſerved, that the devotion of the female ſex is, in general, more fervent and lively than that of the male; accordingly, in Monkcheſter, many of the former, quitting the world, ſought for a retreat, where they might, undiſquieted by the cares and anxieties of life, ſpend their days in mortification,

and in what to them appeared the ſublime contemplation of celeſtial objects.

To cheriſh ſentiments at that day thought ſo devout, and to give full ſcope to the practice of the whole round of religious exerciſes, ſeveral princes, prelates, and nobles, believed it to be a neceſſary and meritorious duty to found a convent, or nunnery, for theſe female recluſes. Accordingly we find ſtill ſome veſtiges of the once famous monaſtery of St Bartholomew to this day. A little above the Scotch inn, where, during the interval of hoſtilities, the kings and nobles of that nation, upon coming to Newcaſtle, generally reſided, on the oppoſite ſide of the ſtreet, there ſtill remains part of the arch to the great entrance to the nunnery of St. Bartholomew. What its extent, or the number of accommodations for its fair reſidents, no trace in hiſtory remains to inform us. But all eccleſiaſtical hiſtorians are unanimous in aſſuring us, that it was the oldeſt of all the monaſtic buildings in this place.

From the White-croſs ſouthward the ſtreet leads to the Nun-gate, which gives name to a ſmall part of the ſtreet in its neighbourhood. This gate (which, ſeveral years ago, was entirely taken down by the corporation) was not the great gate of the nunnery, but a ſort of back paſſage to it; for the nunnery was ſituated lower down, as may be ſeen by the ruins of ſome old walls in their garden, which ſtill go by the name of the nun's garden.

Speed, in his hiſtory, informs us, that it was king Henry I. who founded the hoſpital of St. Bartholomew, for the nuns of Newcaſtle. The Scottiſh hiſtorians, Boethius, Fordun, and others, aſſert, that David, king of Scotland, who was

a

a great builder of churches, during his reſidence in this town, A. D. 1135, founded this nunnery. Whether theſe royal perſonages were, either jointly or individually, the founders of this convent, it ſeems, however, from hiſtory, pretty certain, that they were both munificent benefactors to the inſtitution.

Ridpath, in his highly-informing Border Hiſtory, ſays, that Agas, the mother of Margaret, queen of Scotland, and Chriſtian, her ſiſter, after king Malcolm was killed at Alnwick, anno 1086, incapable of enjoying ſociety after that fatal cataſtrophe, retired to this nunnery, and took the ſacred veil.

Benefactions, donations, and grants, numerous and valuable, poured into this receptacle of fair devotees.

Large quantities of wheat, rich and fertile lands, villages, &c. all were chearfully granted to the devout nuns of St. Bartholomew; waſtes, and houſes in the Side, Pilgrim-ſtreet, Fleſh-market, Oat-market, Darn-crook, and almoſt all over the town, belonged to them. That piece of fine land adjacent to the town-moor, called to this day the Nun's-moor, or Leazowes, was alſo the property of theſe ſiſters, which, after paſſing through ſeveral hands, was at laſt, by the abbeſs, veſted in the corporation of Newcaſtle, where it ſtill continues.

But, in proportion as the convent became opulent, the ſiſterhood, it is ſaid, felt an irreſiſtible propenſity towards the oppoſite ſex. And fame ſays, (but ſhe often lies) that ſome of the frail fair ones, by means of a ſubterraneous communication with the neighbouring monaſtery, became mammas, without the trouble of the marriage ceremony. Mr Bourne ſays, that Mr Blackett's ſteward, Mr Richmond, aſſured him, that he had ſeen the entrance into this

ſubterraneous vault, but that it was then filled up with earth.

Charity, however, which "thinketh no evil," obliges us to view the deſign of this vault (if ſuch ever exiſted) with a *more* favourable eye: it very probably was a depoſitary for wines and other ſtores, which the fair devotees wiſhed to be concealed from the views of the cenſorious public. However, we well know, that, upon the intention of the relentleſs Henry VIII. of pulling down and ſtripping the rich abbeys and monaſteries being known, the courtiers and minions of the royal plunderer inſtantly ſet on to load the falling prieſthood with the blackeſt calumnies and foulеſt imputations; ſo that, inſtead of their being ſacred receſſes of devotion, and ſublime meditation, they were too truly repreſented as having been the filthy dens of hideous impurities, ſinks of frightful pollutions, gluttony, luſts, murders, and particularly of myriads of infanticides, and of other monſtrous crimes, which called for the vengeance of God and man! In conſequence of this the nunnery of Newcaſtle amongſt others was fully ſuppreſſed in the year 1540: at the time of its diſſolution it conſiſted of a prioreſs and nine other nuns.

Such was the overthrow of the numerous and richly endowed monaſteries, with which Newcaſtle for ages had abounded. The ſuperſtitious devotee may poſſibly lament the mighty change, and the incurable wound given to the papal power in Britain; but the burſting forth of the light of ſcience, and civil and religious liberty, ſtript of their galling chains, appearing to bleſs mankind with their benign influence, and to ſhed on them their choiceſt bleſſings,

bleſſings, powerfully demonſtrate, that the change has been wonderfully for the amelioration of the condition of mankind.

ST. MARY MAGDALEN'S HOSPITAL FOR LEPERS.

The leproſy was a loathſome, foul, and painful diſeaſe. It was, in ancient times, very common among the Aſiatics, Egyptians, and other eaſtern and ſouthern nations. It ſeems to have been particularly prevalent, as we find in ſacred writ, among the ancient Iſraelites; and we read of the numerous precautions to prevent the ſpreading of its infectious influence, by excluding the perſon affected with this dreadful malady from all intercourſe with ſociety, till he ſhould either recover, or die.

Phyſiologiſts tell us, that it was hereditary, and infectious; that it might be caught by the ſaliva of a leper, if a ſound perſon drank after him, by contact, or touch; by lying in the ſame bed; or, by intercourſe between the ſexes.

That it was common in our own country, appears from this, that hoſpitals for lepers were erected almoſt in every town of any conſequence in the kingdom. In general, it baffled the power of medicine, and of conſequence the patient dragged out a life of the moſt exquiſite and conſummate miſery. What is very particular however is, that although the fatal liſt of diſeaſes which afflict human kind, rather encreaſes in our times; yet the dreadful one of leproſy is almoſt altogether unknown in our favour'd iſland. Monſ. St. Fond, that amiable philoſopher, and one of the moſt eminent members of the French National

National Inſtitute, and, to heighten his celebrity, a particular favourite of the Firſt Conſul, who viſited Newcaſtle a few years ago, ſpeaking of the many and vaſt advantages reſulting from the uſe of coal fuel, has this remarkable obſervation, "And there can be little doubt, but that it is from the conſumption of ſo much coal, in the numerous great manufactories in Britain, as well as the plenty of that uſeful mineral employed in domeſtic purpoſes, that the leproſy, that horribly loathſome diſorder, ſo common in other countries, and alſo in England until coal became the general fuel there, has now totally diſappeared."

To afford an aſylum for perſons afflicted with this dreadful contagious diſeaſe, the hoſpital of St. Mary Magdalen was founded, and endowed, near the Barras-Bridge, at the northern extremity of the town of Newcaſtle. It was placed on a riſing ground, and the term Barras was originally Barrows, tumuli, or heights, probably the burying-place of the patients who died of this diſorder. No veſtiges now remain of that humane inſtitution. It was a priory, or hoſpital, for a maſter, brethren, and ſiſters, to receive and accommodate lepers.

Pope Alexander III. confirmed the maſter and brethren in the poſſeſſion of ſuch houſes, gardens, rents, woods, and other property as might be made over to them with an exemption from all tythes.

King Edward I. confirmed to them a houſe bequeathed to them by John de Hercelaw.

John Bland was a great benefactor to this hoſpital, by giving and leaving them many valuable donations, and was buried in their chancel.

The

The good Roger Thornton, ever among the fair liſt of the charitable and humane, left, by his will, two pounds to the "leper men" of Newcaſtle.

Fourteen perſons, ſays Bourne, reſiding in the houſe, were each allowed a room, coals, and eight ſhillings per month. Fifteen others, were a ſort of out-patients, with different allowances, ſome of eight ſhillings, ſome of five ſhillings, and others of two ſhillings and ſixpence per month. Upon its diſſolution by a ſtatute of Henry VIII. king James I. incorporated it with St Thomas' chapel, on Tyne-bridge, conſtituting the mayor and common council patrons.

Happy has it been for Newcaſtle, that the neceſſity of ſuch an aſylum has long ſince ceaſed, a leper being a character almoſt altogether unknown in our times.

The MONASTERY of the ST. AUSTIN FRIARS.

This ſeems to have been one of the moſt beautiful and magnificent of all the religious ſtructures, of the monaſtic orders, in Newcaſtle. It was ſituated on the left hand in going down the Manor-chare, on that extenſive piece of ground, on which have been ſince erected the Freemen's Hoſpital, Barber Surgeon's Hall, &c. of which we will give an account when deſcribing the Public Buildings, Charitable foundations, &c. It was founded (ſays Wallis in his valuable account of the antiquities of Northumberland) by William Lord Ros, baron of Wark, upon Tweed, about the year 1290.

He was one of the moſt potent chieftains of the north, and the branches of his family were rendered illuſ-

illuſtrious by their intermarriages with perſonages of royal deſcent, as Robert de Ros in the reign of Henry II. married one of the daughters of William king of Scotland, of whom Lord William deſcended in direct lineage. It was a handſome building, adorned with cloiſters, and had a curious chapel. When the iſland was unhappily divided into two diſtinct, and, too often, rival kingdoms, the Engliſh monarchs, when on their march northwards, with their armies, generally took up their reſidence in this ſacred receſs. It was honoured by Margaret, eldeſt daughter of king Henry VII. who was ſumptuouſly entertained at this houſe, along with the mayor and principal people of Newcaſtle. That princeſs was then affianced to the king of Scotland, and was here, with a ſplendid retinue, on her journey to that kingdom, on the 24th and 25th of July, 1503. Bourne ſays, that in his time, there was ſtill a complete quadrangle to be ſeen, the ſouth ſide of which has undoubtedly been the chapel. This ſeems to have been the ancient building, for Grey ſpeaks of ſome ſumptuous additions that were made to this magnificent monaſtery. "In ſucceeding ages, ſays he, it was enlarged and beautified, with ſtately buildings, cloiſters, and a fair church." The kings of England, ſince the conqueſt, ſays Bourne, kept houſe in it, when they came with a royal army againſt Scotland. And ſince the ſuppreſſion of monaſteries in the kingdom, it has been a magazine and ſtore-houſe for the north parts. Of late, that princely fabric has been laid level with the ground. "The pride, covetouſneſs, luxury, and idolatry, of theſe houſes, adds the reverend author, brought ſudden

ſudden ruin upon themſelves, and their abodes of indolence and voluptuous luxury."

The order was that of St. Auguſtine, contracted Auſtin. The name reflected honour upon the order; it is a pity, if, as Bourne ſays, the order reflected diſgrace upon the name. St. Auguſtine was the moſt celebrated of all the Latin fathers. His language is ſo pure and claſſical, his ſentiments ſo original, ſo pious, ſo ſublime, that, let any one read, and enter into the ſpirit of his tract, *De civitate Dei*, he will imagine himſelf tranſported into the celeſtial abodes.

They were of the hermits, (inhabitants of the deſert) and were ſent into England, by Lanfrank, of Milan, the firſt general of the hermits of St. Auſtin, in the year 1252. And from wandering mendicants, they had the addreſs to ſecure the favour of the great and powerful, and ſo became one of the wealthieſt, and moſt potent orders, under the hierarchy of Rome.

The celebrity of their name, and the reputed ſanctity of their order, procured them the friendſhip of princes, nobles, barons, wealthy citizens, and merchants; ſo that they had lands, houſes, rents, tythes of manors, &c. unintereſting to our readers, and irkſome to ourſelves to enumerate, chiefly as we find theſe *holy beggers* made ſuch a ſhameful uſe of the well-intended benevolence of the charitable, and the virtuous.

By an ordinary of the fraternity of weavers in Newcaſtle-upon-Tyne, dated the 31ſt of Auguſt, 1525, every brother of that ſociety is enjoined to be "At the Sante Auguſtine's, in the daye of the exaltacion of the holy croſſe, in every year, and on the none of the ſame to go to the dirge and ſowle maſſe

to be done for the breders and ſuſters (brothers and ſiſters) of the ſaid fellowſhips. We will ſee curious ſpecimens of this farſical mummery, when we come to treat of the different companies.

It is remarkable that we find no record of any men of learning among Auguſtine friars, in Newcaſtle; although there may have been ſuch, but their names and memorial periſhed in the general deſtruction of the monaſtery.

Be that as it may, this houſe was ſuppreſſed by Henry VIII. in the 30th year of his reign. Andrew Kell, prior, ſeven brethren, and three novices, ſurrendering their houſe January 9, 1539.

The Milbank MSS. informs us, that when king James I. came to the throne of England, in the firſt year of his reign, this monaſtery was adorned with cloiſters, and a fair church, which a Scot, one of his attendants, begged of James. The king granting it, the rapacious Scotſman immediately ſtripped it of its fine roof of lead, and ſold it! But mark the juſt retribution of heaven, the ſhip that was carrying to a foreign market the ſacrilegious cargo, was itſelf caſt away! The ſtones of the monaſtery, the ſame prophane Caledonian ſold to Sir Peter Riddle, who, with them built the ſouth front of his fine houſe. But mark again the divine diſpleaſure, the property is wreſted, (ſays good Mr Bourne) from the poſterity of Sir Peter, and has devolved upon captain Dykes. What impiety have we left untouched!

Out of its ruins has ſince aroſe a workhouſe for the employment of the poor; a houſe of correction for the unruly, a charity ſchool for the indigent children of All Saints, and a dwelling for the maſter, built

1723;

1723; all, by the corporation, to whoſe poſſeſſion came the monaſtery and the adjacent grounds belonging to it, after the diſſolution of the order. The ſurgeon's fine hall, and two of the public hoſpitals, ſtand on part of the ground where were the gardens of the monaſtery. Of all which we intend giving an account in their proper place.

PRIORY OF ST. MICHAEL DE WALL-KNOLL, *Styled, Of the Order of the Holy Trinity.*

We have already obſerved, that the Carmelites, or White-Friars, upon their arrival in Monkcheſter or Newcaſtle, had a ſituation granted them upon Wall-Knoll, where they founded a monaſtery, which, in proceſs of time, was found inadequate for their accommodation, as the members of their order had prodigiouſly increaſed. They therefore deſerted this ſituation, and choſe one large and ſpacious, near the Poſtern-gate, in Weſtgate-ſtreet.

The brethren of St Michael de Woll-Knoll, were alſo termed Trinitarians or Maturines, ſtyled, Of the Holy Trinity, for the redemption of captives; and were brought into England A. D. 1224.

Their rule was that of St. Auſtin, with ſome peculiar conſtitutions. And inſtead of diſguiſing themſelves with black or grey gowns, cloaks, cowls, &c. like the ſpirit of their truly laudable inſtitution, they were attired in white robes, with a red and blue croſs upon their breaſts.

Their revenues, which ſoon became ample, were divided into three parts: the firſt was for their own maintenance; the ſecond for that of the poor; and the third for the redemption of chriſtians taken

captives by the Turks, Algerines, and other barbarous infidels; amongſt whom it was accounted, in theſe dark ages, meritorious to torture ſuch chriſtians as fell into their hands, with every dreadful ſpecies of cruelty.

There were ten or twelve houſes of this humane and benevolent order, in England and Wales.

The following ſingular circumſtance will help us to diſcover the foundation charter of this houſe. The celebrated Leland in his Itinerary, tells us "that there was a houſe in Barwyke, ordinis S. Trinitatis, of the order of the Holy Trinity: But Antony Beke, byſhope of Dureſme (Durham) deſtroyed it, (the more ſhame to a biſhop!) and then one William Wakefelde, maſter of the houſe in Barwyke, at the defacing of it came to Newcaſtle, and by aid of Gul. and Laurence Acton, brethrene, both merchaunts of Newcaſtell, builded within the town of Newcaſtell, a houſe of the religion of S. Trinitatis, where Wakefelde himſelf was firſt maſter." Leland's Itiner. vol. 8. Accordingly, we find the foundation charter of this houſe is dated the Wedneſday before Pentecoſt A. D. 1360. It was confirmed by the biſhop of Durham, (ſurely not Antony Beke) October 2, 1361, and by the dean and chapter there, April 20, 1363.

The founder was the generous William de Acton, burgeſs of Newcaſtle. This houſe was dedicated to St. Michael; and the place where it ſtood, from its elevated ſituation, was called St Michael's Mount.

William de Wakefelde was very deſervedly appointed the firſt warden. The ſociety were to conſiſt of three chaplains of this order; one whereof was to be the warden; and three poor and infirm perſons, and

and three clerks to teach ſchool and inſtruct in the chapel of the houſe.

Their ſources of ſupport were, a tenement which belonged to Hugh de Haldenby, two cellars oppoſite to Cale-croſs, a piece of ground near the town-wall, a rent of thirty-three ſhillings and fourpence (worth fifty pounds now) from a houſe near Lorkburn; a rent of fifty-ſeven ſhillings and fourpence, from a tenement in Fleſher-rawe! and another of ten ſhillings, from a tenement oppoſite Cale-croſs: all given by the truly benevolent founder, good William de Acton, in *frankalmoigne*, free alms-gift.

The maſter of St. Robert's (another inſtitution of the ſame order, at Knareſburgh, in Yorkſhire) was appointed viſitor, to viſit them annually, about Trinity Sunday; on which occaſion, the maſter of St. Michael was to preſent him with a horſe-load of fiſh, and defray the expences of his journey. Failing him, the mayor and bailiffs of Newcaſtle were to be his viſitors. Three beds were alſo to be kept prepared for accidental gueſts.

King Edward III. 1361, granted a licence of mortmain, to enable William de Acton to found the hoſpital of St. Trinity anew, and to aſſign property to it, to the value of ſix pounds three ſhillings and fourpence; all in Newcaſtle, in part of their ſupport, and for the maintenance of their ſucceſſors, for ever. To obtain which licence, the good William de Acton paid to the king a fine of twenty pounds.

The ſame king Edward III. 1370, granted a licence of mortmain to Thomas Beutele, chaplain, to enable him to aſſign a certain void place, and thirteen ſhillings and fourpence of rent in Newcaſtle, to William de Wakefelde, keeper or warden, and miniſter of the Holy

Holy Trinity, for the redemption of captives, of the Wall-Knoll there, and the brethren of that houſe, in aid of the ſupport of a chaplain, to perform divine ſervice for the ſouls of Thomas and William Thorold, their fathers, mothers, and anceſtors; and all the faithful departed, daily, in St. Nicholas' church, in that town.

Richard II. 1394, granted a licence of mortmain to John de Bamburgh, chaplain, and John de Refham, of Newcaſtle, to empower them to grant three meſſuages, fourteen cottages, one toft, three gardens, and thirteen ſhillings of rent, in that town, held of the king in free burgage, and by Agnes de Rippon, for her life, to ſupport for ever certain charges, according to the ordering of the ſaid John and John, on this behalf.

Richard II. 1397, granted a licence to John Gaudes and Robert de Alnewyk, chaplains, to enable them to aſſign a meſſuage, with its appurtenances, in Newcaſtle, held in burgage of the king, to the maſter and brethren of this hoſpital, in aid of their ſupport for ever.

And the excellent Roger de Thornton (never wanting in a good action) bequeathed two fothers of lead to the reparation of their houſe.

Other patent grants of tenements in Galleweycroft, in Shelde-felde, and Byker, were made to this humane inſtitution.

We hope our candid readers will excuſe us for once, and for the laſt time too, in being circumſtantial in the detail of the origin, intention, and means of ſupport, for ages, of this truly excellent and highly laudable foundation; nor do we find a ſingle charge againſt any of the order, one frail brother excepted; he

he was convicted of improper intercourſe with one married and one unmarried woman. His name was John Felle; and probably, next to the avarice of Henry VIII. was the cauſe of the total diſſolution of the order.

It ſurrendered on the 10th of January, 1539, and was finally diſſolved, and all its valuable lands, gardens, meſſuages, &c. were veſted in the corporation, in whoſe poſſeſſion they ſtill remain.

Thus we have, in the preceding pages, given a ſuccinct account of the ancient Roman wall, which ran through Newcaſtle; and, by its ſtrength, and the ſecurity which it preſented to an enterpriſing people, laid the foundation of all the ſubſequent grandeur and increaſing wealth, of this vaſt mart of domeſtic and foreign trade and commerce with moſt civilized nations of the world. We have briefly delineated its walls, towers, and gates, by which it ſet at defiance, for ages, hoſtile invaſion; and, by the valour of its wardours and townſmen, ſecured domeſtic property and undiſturbed repoſe.

But we have been deſignedly more particular in deſcribing the numerous religious foundations, monaſteries, and convents, with which this town abounded for centuries, probably more than any other town or city, of its extent, in the kingdom. The amenity of its ſituation drew numbers of religious from all parts; the ſtrong and formidable walls, nigh which all the monaſteries were built, preſerved them, in general, in ſecurity; and the ſuavity of manners, and hoſpitality of diſpoſition, peculiar to the people of Newcaſtle to this day, retained and engaged them.

But about the 13th and 14th centuries there aroſe a general diſcontent in the minds of thoughtful and intelligent

intelligent men, when they obſerved the vices of the ſacred order burſt forth, without diſguiſe or reſtraint. Germany and France called aloud for reformation; but the papal ear was deaf to their too well founded remonſtrances; while fire and faggot was the threatened reward of their audacity and inſolence: and the flames of John Huſs, and Jerome of Prague, were kindled, as a dreadful caution to all ſuch, let their condition of life be ever ſo exalted, as ſhould dare to call in queſtion, even the moſt glaring and the moſt flagitious conduct of the clerical orders. This violent procedure of the papal court precipitated the overthrow of its power in many of the moſt enlightened, as well as warlike, nations of Europe; while the contempt with which the *centum gravamina* (the hundred grievances) of the Germans, and the loud complaints of other nations, were treated, together with the cruel deaths inflicted on the beſt of men, by barbarous, bloody, clerical butchers, excited the indignation of all the conſiderate and virtuous in Chriſtendom. Nor were the ears of Britons inattentive to the powerful call for a reform in the whole ſyſtem of religion, and particularly in the lives and deportment of its teachers, ſo offenſive and criminal in the eyes of the world. The cry was particularly loud againſt the monaſtic orders, of both ſexes. Orders, for whoſe exiſtence there is neither the leaſt veſtige of foundation in ſacred writ, nor do they derive any countenance from reaſon or the conſtitution of human nature: while the celebate vow, and unnatural reſtraints upon the innocent propenſities of mankind, incited theſe recluſes to practices foul and flagitious, by the moſt deteſtable gratifications. But, while the German remonſtrants obtained their religious liberty at the

the point of the ſword, Providence employed a new and very unexpected mode of ſecuring this celeſtial bleſſing to Britain; and this was by over-ruling the luſt, and directing the fiery paſſions of that ſtern and furious tyrant, Henry VIII. againſt that oppreſſive power, of whoſe faith he gloried in being *the defender*. Meantime the ſpiritual and temporal tyrants were both too proud to make the ſmalleſt reciprocal conceſſion: the one entrenched in his bulls and anathemas; the other in his powerful armies and well-appointed fleets. Nor did Henry imagine that he could give a more effectual blow either to the pontifical pride, the inſatiable avarice, or the boundleſs luxuries of his haughty rival, than, by one bold ſtroke, to overthrow the monaſteries, nunneries, and cloiſters, in his whole dominions; and this the royal barbarian immediately put in execution, quartering alive, in their own convents, any who dared to make the ſmalleſt reſiſtance. But to vindicate, to the ſurrounding and aſtoniſhed nations, in ſome meaſure, the violence, or, as he alledged, the propriety of his procedure, he cauſed to be publiſhed to the world ſuch a liſt of crimes, that were diſcovered (as has already been obſerved) in theſe *manſions of ſanctity*, as filled all men with horror. Be that as it may, the monks and nuns were expelled; the monaſteries, containing treaſures of prodigious value, were plundered; and, to conſummate the cataſtrophe, the abbeys were ſtripped of their lands, containing at leaſt one-fourth part of the faireſt and moſt fertile domains of the kingdom, which were annexed to the crown, or reſtored to ancient and illuſtrious families, reduced to indigence by the art and addreſs of their tyrannical confeſſors.

Nor did the monaſteries, priories, and nunneries of Newcaſtle, numerous and rich as they were, eſcape the rapacity of the royal, rough reformer; and what had employed the unremitting energy and the profoundeſt addreſs of that powerful body, the clergy, to rear and maintain, was, as if by a ſudden political exploſion, in a moment laid in ruins. The devotee, and the votary of clerical power, join in execrating the arm that dealt the deadly blow. Even Mr. Brand, in his Hiſtory of Newcaſtle, deſcribing the ruinated condition of the once ſtately monaſtery of the Black Friars, obſerves: "The weſt window of the chapel, now partly built up, ſtill diſcovers it to have been a moſt elegant deſign, and beautiful execution. The whole pile has ſtill a monaſtic appearance, and affords a mournful inſtance of the viciſſitude of all human things. Once the receſs of a reſpectable order of religious, who were the ſole patrons and poſſeſſors of the learning of their times, it is now tenanted by ignorant old women: ſome of it is converted into ſtabling, and its out-offices are appropriated to the feeding of hogs."—*Brand's Hiſt. vol.* 1. *p.* 134---*Note.*

Upon which paſſage, the ingenious Reviewers apoſtrophize with too much truth:---"As to the learning and theological knowledge, which the reverend author aſſerts were monopolized by theſe ghoſtly tenants of cloiſters, and the deſtruction of which he ſeems ſo pathetically to lament, we have a wretched ſpecimen, as quoted by himſelf, in the doughty diſpute among the doctors of St. Andrew's, whether the *Pater Noſter* (the Lord's Prayer) ſhould be addreſſed *to the ſaints*, or not; or, if it ſhould, with what degree of devotion ought it to be addreſſed

dreſſed;—whether to God, *primario* (firſtly), and to the ſaints, *ſecundario* (ſecondly);—to God, *principaliter* (principally), to the ſaints, *minus principaliter* (leſs principally). What a fund of theological learning, loſt! gone, forever!" As to theſe halls of grey renown being tenanted now by "ignorant old women," they add: "Yet there is not an old woman there, that is ſo ignorant as not to know that God Almighty is alone the object of worſhip. That the venerable pile is inhabited by decayed tradeſmen and mechanics, who have virtuouſly ſpent the vigour of their days in buſineſſes uſeful to ſociety, and have fitted up decent rooms in theſe deſolated manſions, as calm retreats in their evening of life, is probably ſerving an equally valuable purpoſe, as when, in the former times of their ſplendor and affluence, a black ſwarm of lazy drones of monks rioted there in ignorance, luxury, and vice!"

Thus we have attempted an account of *things that are now no more*. It is proper, then, to proceed in the proſecution of our plan, by giving a delineation of *things that now exiſt*. Previous, however, to our entering upon the more conſequential ſubjects of our hiſtory, it will be proper to preſent our readers with a diſtinct account of the ſtreets, lanes, &c. which communicate with the principal ſtreets, and likewiſe ſome of the new buildings that are more particularly worthy of notice.

We have already made ſome remarks on Weſtgate-ſtreet; near the head of which, to the right, is a beautiful new ſquare, called Charlotte-ſquare, ſpacious and airy, and containing many elegant houſes, poſſeſſed by opulent and faſhionable inhabitants. It was built by Mr. Newton, architect, who likewiſe

built St. Anne's chapel and the New Aſſembly Rooms, and who died very lately.

From a diviſion of Weſtgate-ſtreet, fronting the Aſſembly Rooms, the ſhort ſtreet next that beautiful building is called Fenkle-ſtreet; from which, to the right, is a pretty long winding ſtreet, called Shod-Friar-chare, from its vicinity to the Black-Friars' monaſtery, whoſe fraternity wore ſhoes, as thoſe of the Grey-Friars went bare-footed. But it is now uſually called Low-Friar-chare, in contradiſtinction to the upper, or High-Friar-chare, near Newgate.

In this ſtreet, which contains ſeveral valuable tanneries, the property of Alderman Yielder, &c. is an edifice worthy of a particular and minute deſcription; we mean the public diſpenſary for the relief of indigent patients at their own houſes. Inoculation, not only gratis for the operation, but attended with a gratuity, (no where elſe granted, we believe) to enable the relations to attend the patients till they recover. We are prevented, however, by our plan, from gratifying our readers with a full account of this truly excellent and humane inſtitution, till we come to that material diviſion of our work, *Charitable Foundations*, &c.

In coming down Weſtgate-ſtreet, by the weſt end of St. John's church, there is a ſmall but clean ſtreet, called St. John's-lane, inhabited moſtly by private perſons. It communicates with the Bigg-market, near the Nun-gate.

Further down, ſtill on the left, we come to Pudding-chare. It ought to be named, ſays Bourne, Budding-chare; and that formerly there was a charitable

ritable inſtitution here for the poor, but it has long been erazed. This ſtreet has nothing to recommend it to notice, being in general unſightly, dark, and dirty. It communicates with St. John's church-yard, or rather with a foot-way, railed off at the end of it, called, from its vicinity to a large repoſitory of the dead, "Graves-end-walk," by another ſmall ſtreet, called Roſemary-lane.

But our attention is here arreſted by ſeeing in this pleaſant receſs the front of the Lying-in Hoſpital for poor married woman; and, to complete the benevolent eſtabliſhment, an additional charity was inſtituted in 1761 for poor lying-in women at their own habitations, in Newcaſtle and Gateſhead. When we come to deſcribe the public charitable inſtitutions, we ſhall, with particular ſatisfaction, give a full detail of this truly laudable one. Pudding-chare joins the head of Groat-market-ſtreet.

Further down, on the ſame ſide, is a chare, or lane, called Denton-chare; and leads by a ſtrait line to the weſt end of St. Nicholas' church. It is narrow, but the houſes on each ſide are not high, and therefore it is light, and handſomely paved with flag-ſtones. It is almoſt one continued ſhop of fruits, of the moſt uſeful and pleaſant kinds.

On the ſame ſide of the ſtreet, further down, we come to a ſhort wide ſtreet, called Back-Row. It leads from the foot of Weſtgate, weſtward, to the Poſtern in the town wall called White-Friar-gate. The Poſtern-ſtreet contains nothing particular, except a neat chapel, which has lately been erected for the diſſenters formerly in connection with the late counteſs of Huntingdon, of which an account will be given under the head of *churches and chapels*. Next the

the gate, by the right hand, is a row of moſt delightful houſes, near to the town-wall, but quite overlooking it, and commanding a charming proſpect towards Ravenſworth-caſtle, Windmill-hills, &c. It is called (not improperly) Paradiſe-row. It extends weſtward to a fine open green area, belonging to the Spital, and appropriated to the uſe of the ſcholars of the Royal Grammar-ſchool, as a place of amuſement in the intervals of learning.

Back-row extends eaſtward to the gate of the caſtle, (not mis-called) the Black-gate. It was, in old times, named the Gallow-gate; as priſoners found guilty are brought from the county priſon, in the old caſtle, by this ſtreet, in their way to the gallows, without Weſtgate.

Next to the Back-row is Bayly-gate, or Bailiff-gate. It leads towards the caſtle, into which it has anciently conducted by a poſtern-gate. Bourne ſays, that it obtained this name from the felons of the county of Northumberland coming along this ſtreet, attended by the county bailiffs. It is not altogether improbable that this might have been the occaſion of ſo naming it; as, in thoſe days of turbulence and diſſention, it would require a little hoſt of bailiffs, well armed, to guard and convey half a ſcore of thoſe ſons of violence to the frightful place of confinement in the caſtle. Dr. Robertſon, in his admirable Hiſtory of Scotland, tells us, that in the days of the unfortunate, beautiful Mary, when regent Murray went on a judiciary progreſs towards the borders, in order to rid the country of marauders, he was attended by an army of ten thouſand men, with all the ſheriffs, and their reſpective attendants, of the different counties through which he paſſed.

But

But Mr. Brand is not pleaſed with this derivation, and ſays, that it plainly had its name from the Ballium of the caſtle. It is, however, of little or no conſequence, what was its true etymon.

The eaſt end of this ſtreet is interſected by the paſſage from the deſcent into the Cloſe, called Long-ſtairs, which, from thence to the eaſt end of the Back-row, is at preſent called Queen-ſtreet. There is a communication between the head of Long-ſtairs and Caſtle-ſtairs, called Bank-ſide, and a ſtill ſhorter by a ſubterraneous or arched paſſage called Sheep-Head-alley.

The names of theſe places ſeem uncouth and contemptible to the modern and poliſhed inhabitants of Newcaſtle; but in former times, when the caſtle, with its ſtrong environs, commanded and defended the town, they were then of great conſequence.

From the ſouth-weſt corner of Bailiff-gate to the Tuthill-ſtairs, at the foot of Weſtgate-ſtreet, is a beautiful termination of it by ſpacious and ſplendid houſes, which have the name of Clavering-place; ſurpaſſed ſtill by thoſe on the oppoſite ſide, in point of regularity and ſituation, called Hanover-ſquare. No part in or about Newcaſtle excels, or indeed equals, the charming proſpect which theſe delightful abodes command, from the vicinity of White-Friar tower, of the river, Whickham, Axwell Park-houſe, &c.

Nearly at the end of Pudding-chare, the ſtreet called Bigg, or Oat-market, branches out into three diviſions. That next to Weſtgate-ſtreet is called the Meal or Groat-market; that next to it is named the Middle-ſtreet; and that next to Pilgrim-ſtreet, the Fleſh-market.

The

The Bigg-market was ſo named, not for its ſpacious extent of area, which indeed is very large, but from a kind of grain called bigg being ſold here.

Meal-market, or Oatmeal-market, was ſo named as being the daily market for that commodity. It was called alſo Groat-market, from this article being ſold here. Theſe neceſſaries of life are not now confined to any particular ſtreet, but may be had in the flour-ſhops in every quarter of the town. What name it had formerly, ſays Mr. Bourne, I know not, but this is certain, that it has retained its preſent name of the Groat-market above two hundred years. It contains many ſhops for hardware, linen and woollen-drapers, bookſellers, &c. It has long been known as the ſtreet where houſehold furniture of all kinds may at any time be purchaſed. Here alſo were the Old Aſſembly Rooms, which are now appropriated to the uſe of the Literary and Philoſophical Society, as a place of meeting, and a repoſitory for their valuable and extenſive library, inſtruments, natural curioſities, &c.—A particular account of this will be given when we come to deſcribe the other public inſtitutions.

The Middle-ſtreet is ſo called from being between the Groat-market and the Fleſh-market. It has nothing ſtriking in its appearance. It had formerly three names; the upper part was called Skinner-gate, the lower parts Spurrier-gate and Sadler-gate. It is a place where all ſorts of artificers have their ſhops and houſes.

Between the foot of this ſtreet and the Groat-market, is the Wool-market, kept for that commodity every Saturday.

The

The Fleſh-market is on the north-eaſt ſide, next to Pilgrim-ſtreet. It is large and broad at the bottom, but it gradually narrows towards the High-Bridge, where it terminates. As it is a place of great conſequence, we will be the more particular in our deſcription of it.

Grey tells us us, "that when the good men of this town began to trade, and venture abroad beyond the ſeas, they built many ſhips, and procured a charter from the kings of England, to carry felt beyond ſeas, and to bring in foreign commodities. The ſtaple was then at Antwerp, in Brabant, called *Commune totius Europæ Emporium*, The common Emporium of all Europe. The charter of the Merchant Adventurers in Newcaſtle was the firſt charter that was granted by any king to any town.

"After this grant, this town flouriſhed in trading, built many fair houſes in the Fleſh-market, then called the Cloth-market. The merchants had their ſhops and warehouſes in the back part of their houſes. The river Tyne flowed and ebbed here, and boats came up with commodities; which trade continued many years.

"In this ſtreet, the mayors, (before the manſion-houſe was erected) aldermen, and richeſt men of the town, lived."

Part of the preſent Fleſh-market was called the Cloth-market, and part of it the Fleſh-market and Fiſh-market. This, adds Mr. Bourne, was the market for the fiſh which came up in boats to the Nether-dean-bridge, or Low-bridge, before the embankment of the Tyne, by the large and commodious quay. The market for all kinds of fleſh-meat, held here every Saturday, is probably the largeſt and beſt ſtored ſingle market of any in the kingdom.

A ſtranger is ſtruck with ſurpriſe when he views the long and extended rows of butchers' ſtalls, loaded with meat of the richeſt and moſt delicious kinds; the mutton, beef, &c. being moſtly of the Scotch or Northumberland breed, and fattened in the rich paſtures of the graziers in the vicinity of Newcaſtle, poſſeſs a flavour unknown in the more ſouthern counties. But we will ſpeak of this more fully afterwards, when deſcribing the ſupplies and proviſions of Newcaſtle, fairs, markets, &c.

At the foot of the Fleſh-market ſtood the Cordwainers' meeting-houſe, which, in the year 1789, was pulled down, and a new hall for the meetings of that numerous body, as alſo a leather-houſe, were built in the middle of the High-bridge. A weigh-houſe, conſtructed of wood, for aſcertaining diſputed weight of butcher's meat, and for weighing large joints, is fitted up on the ſite of the former Cordwainers' Hall.

On the upper or north end of the Fleſh-market is the High-bridge, or Upper-dean-bridge, to diſtinguiſh it from the Nether, or Low-bridge, and conducts from the foot of the Bigg-market to Pilgrim-ſtreet. It had this name of High-bridge from its having a bridge over a bourn or runner, that ſtill flows paſt the Poſt-office and under Dean-ſtreet. The arch of the High-bridge was probably level with the ſtreet; but before the great alteration further down the dean, the banks on each ſide of the bourn were of a great aſcent; ſo that when the Roman wall ran over this ſtream, by the Low-bridge, to the eaſt end of St. Nicholas' church-yard, that communication was of great height, and, like all the works of that mighty people, ſtrongly built.

The corporation of Newcaſtle built, ſome years ago,

ago, on the ſouth ſide of the weſt end of this ſtreet, a covered place for a market for poultry, &c. and another adjoining for the ſale of butter, which markets are held here accordingly every Saturday.

During the preſent war, the Poultry-market has been fitted up for a temporary guard-houſe, and for horſe-artillery, ſtores, &c. while the eaſt extremity has been, during the ſevere months of two winters paſt, converted into a large ſoup-kitchen, where thouſands, ready to periſh, have been comfortably relieved. Of which an account will afterwards be given.

From Nun-gate we come along a large, wide, well-paved ſtreet, with many handſome houſes on both ſides. It has the general name of the White Croſs, from a croſs of that name placed in the middle of the ſtreet. *See afterwards.*

Approaching St. Andrew's church, we come to Darn-crook. The buildings are moſtly tanneries, which, however uſeful to a large commercial town, have nothing to attract the attention of the hiſtorian. Acroſs the ſtreet is a little runner, arched over, which fixes the limits of liberty to walk, by debtors not confined to cloſe priſon, and is known by the name of Execution-Dock.* All this vicinity is named, in general, Newgate-ſtreet. Here are ſome

* The word *Dock*, or *Doke*, in a gloſſary of the Eſſex dialect, ſignifies rivulet, or runner; which, indeed, is extremely probable.—It is remarkable, that the abbey or palace of Hollyrood, in Edinburgh, and the adjacent houſes, have for ages ſerved as an aſylum for GREAT VILLAINS, *felony* and *treaſon* excepted; and when once the fugitive from juſtice ſteps over the *Abbey-ſtrand*, he can ſet at defiance all the peace-officers in Scotland. LITTLE ROGUES,

pleaſant buildings, particularly in Green-court, &c. A long winding ſtreet, with very few houſes on the ſouth ſide, while the town wall, mouldering into ruin, preſents its deſolations on the north, is called High-Friar-ſtreet, and leads to Pilgrim-ſtreet Gate.

The SUBURBS of NEWGATE.

Without Newgate, over which is the town priſon, to the left, is the ſtreet called Gallow-gate. Its etymology, if not very high ſounding, is of eaſy derivation, it being the road by which malefactors under the juriſdiction of Newcaſtle are conducted to the gallows. This diſmal place, where the fatal tree ſtands, is very low, and is named the *Gallows-Hole*. Adjacent are ſome wind-mills belonging to Mr. Darnell, of large conſtruction, for grinding corn.

The Gallow-gate has nothing to recommend it, either for its name to pleaſe the ear, or its houſes to pleaſe the eye.

To the honour, however, of the inhabitants of Newcaſtle, there are fewer culprits paſs this lamentable road, to receive the legal reward of their crimes, than probably in any town in England of its ſize and numerous employments.

At the top of this ſtreet is a lane, which brings us cloſe almoſt by the walls, to the great military road that leads to Carliſle.

The ſuburbs, both of New-gate and of Pilgrim-gate, Grey informs us, were ruined in the civil wars, or, as Mr.

Rogues, who cannot pay for lodgings in the privileged royal reſidence, muſt ſuffer impriſonment.

"Small rogues hang, that greater ones may dine."—Pope.

Mr. Brand terms it, the grand rebellion by the Scots.* —When that nation reſented the encroachments on their religious liberties, and were invited to join their forces with their brethren on the ſouth of the Tweed, who were equally jealous of the infringements made upon their civil liberties, it was little wonder that Newcaſtle, which zealouſly ſtood by the royal cauſe, ſuffered in the mighty conflict: and it is probable that the beſieging army, finding reſiſtance from Sir John Marley, the mayor, and a powerful party, deſtroyed the ſuburbs, in order that their battering cannon might play upon the walls with more effect.

To the right-hand, without Newgate, is a ſtreet, called formerly Sidgate, now Percy-ſtreet, that, however contemptible in Mr. Bourne's time, bids fair, by recent improvements, to become one of the moſt faſhionable parts of the town. The fine and productive gardens and nurſeries of the late Mr. Michael Callender have been converted into areas for building by his ſon; and already a new ſtreet runs up from Percy-ſtreet to Strawberry-lane. Building, all along a lane called Blindman's-lane, goes rapidly forward. On the left hand of Percy ſtreet, a little higher up, was formerly a burying-place for diſſenters. In this ground ſeveral eminent and worthy clergymen of that denomination, and many other reſpectable characters, lie interred. It is rather curious to be informed by Mr. Brand, that he read a public regiſter

* But let us hear who was the real deſtroyer of the ſuburbs of Newcaſtle. Wallis ſays, that when General Leſlie commanded the Scots, who were, in 1643, beſieging Newcaſtle, the Marquis of Newcaſtle, then governor for the king, burnt down one hundred houſes in the ſuburbs.

ter in St. Andrew's church veſtry, intimating, that there was a burying-place in Sidgate of the "quigs," (whigs.) And to this day, diſſenters, in many parts of Northumberland, are termed whigs——the higheſt title of honour, as Lord North ſaid in Parliament, that can be beſtowed on a Briton, and he boaſted that he was ſincerely a whig himſelf.

In Percy-ſtreet are many elegant houſes, with pleaſant gardens towards the Leaſowes. The ſtreet is wide and airy; the ſituation, all the way to the Barras-bridge, is exceedingly delightful and healthy. This bridge, over a ſteep dean, was formerly narrow, ill-built, and in dark nights dangerous to paſſengers, eſpecially on horſeback. Of late it has been widened about double its former extent, with a flagged foot-way on each ſide, and is now made exceedingly convenient.

In turning to the right hand from the north end of Percy-ſtreet we enter the town again by the longeſt, lighteſt, and moſt elegant ſtreet in Newcaſtle. It is in general called Pilgrim-ſtreet, from the number of pilgrims who took up their reſidence in this ſtreet, on their road to perform their devotions at Jeſmond, that is, Jeſus' Mount. Immediately upon our entering into this ſtreet, on the left, there is a handſome lane, called Vine-lane, with a few agreeable houſes; but paſſing down into what is called the Dean, or Pandon-dean, we literally have, what Mr. Bourne wiſhed, to this retired vale, a ſmall ſtream, with a pleaſant walk; for this long winding hollow piece of ground, which was waſte and wild, covered with brambles and thorns, is now totally converted, by the hand of induſtry, into a vaſt number of pleaſant though ſmall gardens, for the recreation of many

many of the induſtrious tradeſmen of Newcaſtle. In a fine morning of May, to a lover of retirement, few walks can be more friendly to rational reflection, than that of Pandon-dean.

From the top of Pilgrim-ſtreet to Pilgrim-gate, it is named Northumberland-ſtreet; part of which was called Pedlar or Pethar-row, from its being built by a ſucceſsful man of buſineſs, whoſe younger days were ſpent as a pedeſtrian merchant, and who, getting forward in life, built a number of theſe pleaſant houſes, which ſtill go by that appellation, with fine ſmall gardens adjoining. Newcaſtle does not, in any of its ſtreets, preſent more elegant, ſpacious, and finely built houſes, than are to be found in this.

The late Alderman Hedley's houſe generally attracts the attention of the ſtranger. It is conſtructed with the exacteſt ſymmetry of deſign, and having the advantage of a ſpacious ſtreet in front, has a fine effect. Since the death of that gentleman, it is generally rented by the commanding officer of the troops ſtationed in Newcaſtle, who finds it convenient, as they commonly parade in this ſtreet. But the pride and boaſt of Northumberland-ſtreet is Saville-row. This is truly a range of grand buildings. It had its name from the late amiable and excellent Sir George Saville, who, during the American war, in the years 1776 and 1777, reſided here as colonel of the Beverly Buffs. He endeared himſelf to all ranks of people in this country. Indeed, his patriotiſm as a ſenator, his talents as a philoſopher, his humanity, condeſcenſion, and liberality as a man, (while his ample fortune gave full ſcope to the exertion of his benevolence) made him the darling of the regiment he commanded, and the object of univerſal eſteem;

eſteem; a few intereſted courtiers excepted. From this illuſtrious character Saville-row had its name. At the end of Saville-row is a neat little place, called Saville-court; and adjoining to it are ſome handſome buildings, named Queen-ſquare, of which only two angles are yet conſtructed. A little further down Northumberland-ſtreet, on the ſame ſide, is Liſle-ſtreet, which is leſs ſhowy than Saville-row, but it leads to a number of fine houſes, and one leſſer ſtreet, interſecting it, called Princes-ſtreet, running into Saville-row, and conſiſting of very commodious dwellings. At the foot of Northumberland-ſtreet, near to Pilgrim-ſtreet Gate, is a range of very neat houſes, which bears the name of Northumberland-place, and directly on the oppoſite ſide is Northumberland-court, forming a paſſage into the grounds behind. Many of the houſes in Northumberland-ſtreet, eſpecially thoſe on the eaſt ſide, being on an elevated ſituation, command a fine proſpect northward and eaſtward; Shieldfield, Byker, Heaton-hall, and places adjacent, with part of the county of Durham, being in full view. In former times, they built for ſtrength and ſafety. Hoſtile invaſions, marauding free-booters, and moſs-troopers, ceaſing now to exiſt, the gentlemen of Newcaſtle, after tranſacting buſineſs for thouſands, retire from their compting-houſes to thoſe delightful habitations, to the enjoyment of the fruits of their induſtrious activity, undiſquieted, amidſt their ſmiling, happy families.

When we come within Pilgrim-ſtreet Gate, to the left is a lane that leads cloſe by the wall, which here is nearly entire, to the field called Carliol Croft. Through this extenſive field there is a walk, preſenting a proſpect of many hanging gardens

dens on the right; while from the walls we have a truly pictureſque and extenſive view almoſt in all directions. Paſſing the large brewery (of which an account will be given) belonging to Graham Clark, Eſq. a gentleman of extenſive concerns, poſſeſſing great talents for buſineſs, and to whom the town has been as much indebted, for the extenſion of its foreign commerce and enterprizing adventure, as to any other of its ſpirited men of trade and buſineſs, we meet with nothing ſingular, on either ſide, but one continuation of fine, elegant houſes; all on the eaſt ſide having pleaſant and extenſive gardens, ſloping down to the runner that ſeparates them from Carliol-croft, and fenced in by a long high wall.

But the glory of Pilgrim-ſtreet, and indeed of Newcaſtle, is the magnificent houſe belonging to the late Sir Walter Blackett.

This noble manſion ſtrikes all ſtrangers, at firſt ſight. It was built on the ruins of the Franciſcan monaſtery; only the north and ſouth wings were added to the body of the fabric, by Sir Wm. Blackett, Bart. Sir Walter's grandfather.

Grey ſays, that it is a princely houſe; and "indeed (adds Bourne) it is no leſs than very ſtately and magnificent, being ſuppoſed the moſt ſo of any houſe in the whole kingdom, within a walled town. It is ſurrounded with a vaſt quantity of ground. That part of it which faces the ſtreet is thrown into walks and graſs plats, beautified with images, and beſet with trees, which afford a pleaſant ſhade. The ground on the weſt ſide is a garden, exceedingly neat, adorned with many beautiful ſtatues, and other curioſities." It has indeed a commanding appearance; and from the ſpacious avenue being, as Mr. Bourne ſays, ſhaded

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with trees, it was uſually, till Sir Walter's death, called The Trees. And, "to be at the Trees," was only another term for indulging in the higheſt ſtile of genial conviviality; for Sir Walter was truly a noble and generous landlord.

This ſplendid, hoſpitable manſion, was honoured with a gueſt, no leſs illuſtrious for his private virtues, than for his misfortunes. The reader will at once anticipate the neceſſity of our mentioning Charles I. Here the royal priſoner was entertained, and kept, at large indeed, but ſtrictly watched, till the period of his being delivered up to the army of the parliament.

As Sir Walter Blackett made ſuch a diſtinguiſhed figure in the town of Newcaſtle, during a long and active life, let us deviate a moment from the more immediate ſubject of our hiſtory, to delineate the character of one of its faireſt ornaments and moſt munificent patrons.

Walter Caverley, of Caverley, Eſq. was ſon and heir of Sir Walter Caverley, of Caverley, in Yorkſhire, Bart. He married the daughter and ſole heireſs of Sir William Blackett, Bart. ſon to the ſecond Sir William Blackett, Bart. of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, and who was high ſheriff of Northumberland, 1689. By this alliance he came to a large fortune, and alſo to the title of knighthood, being created Sir Walter Caverley Blackett, Bart. anno 1729. He was high ſheriff of Northumberland 1732. In February 1734 Sir Walter was choſen one of the repreſentatives in parliament for the corporation of Newcaſtle upon Tyne; which high ſtation, notwithſtanding ſome conteſted elections, he kept, by a great majority of votes, for the long period of forty years, indeed till his death.

Although

Although Sir Walter made no figure in the houſe, as an orator, yet he had conſiderable influence in that illuſtrious body. He was truly independent. But, during the reign of George II. when whatever ſeemed to deviate in the ſmalleſt degree from the intereſts of the houſe of Hanover, was branded with the name of Toryiſm and diſaffection, he ſtrenuouſly ſupported the counter-party, in oppoſition to the miniſter. But, upon the demiſe of the prince, the acceſſion of his grandſon, George III. who had received the principles of his education from Lord Bute, and along with theſe, impreſſions very different from thoſe of his royal grandfather, cauſed a mighty change in the political ſyſtem of Britain. Be that as it may, from that period Sir Walter Blackett changed ſides, and ever after remained a ſtrenuous ſupporter of the court party.

But if Sir Walter did not ſhine as a ſenator, all who knew him will readily acknowledge, that in canvaſſing at elections he was unrivalled. His fine open countenance, and courtly deportment, his affability, and, if report does not miſlead us, his liberal manner of diſtributing what the wiſeſt of men ſaid *commands all things*, his ſtrict integrity in keeping his electioneering promiſes, had great weight with electors who had *convenient conſciences*. Beſides which, he was, on theſe occaſions, attended often by above five hundred gentlemen, tradeſmen, &c. ſome of whom had weight with almoſt every freeman.

This powerful combination of circumſtances, as Captain Phipps, his rival, obſerved, ſet all competition with Sir Walter Blackett, for the repreſentation of Newcaſtle, at defiance. The point of view, how-

ever, in which this gentleman's character ſhone with peculiar luſtre, was his almoſt unbounded benevolence, diffuſing its influence in public and private charities; not, like Sir Balaam, in "*giving farthings to the poor.*" Sir Walter's charities were ſubſtantial, correſponding to the exigencies of the caſe. The Infirmary, Charity-ſchools, &c. point to the amiable character from whom they almoſt all had their exiſtence. Hexham too, on every occaſion, felt the benign influence of his generous diſpoſition. His private charities, uninſcribed on marble, but "recorded elſe where," were unceaſing; and what Roger Thornton was in ancient times, Sir Walter was in ours: both were fathers to the fatherleſs and huſbands to the widows, and the bleſſing of them who were ready to periſh came upon both theſe friends of human kind.—Ye rich, ye great, go and do likewiſe.

On the death of Sir Walter Blackett, as he left no direct heirs, his ample eſtates devolved on his relations; and his noble dome, long the abode of ſplendid hoſpitality, was publicly ſold. It was purchaſed by Mr George Anderſon, and now converted into three reſpectable houſes.

Further down, on the oppoſite ſide of the ſtreet, is a lane, or ſtreet, called Manor-chare, which preſents us with a direct view of the noble and well-endowed charitable inſtitutions, an account of which will be given in their proper place. By a large gate is an entrance to Mr William Anderſon's warehouſes, where goods of vaſt value, both from London, Leeds, &c. ſouthward, and alſo from the great commercial towns of Glaſgow, Edinburgh, &c. are ſafely depo-

depoſited, and forwarded according to their reſpective directions, with great fidelity and attention.

A little further down is a new chapel for the worſhip of the Methodiſts of the New Itinerancy. *See churches, &c.*

This ſtreet was anciently, ſays Bourne, called Cowgate, ſo named, very probably, from the large droves of cattle paſſing through it from the north to the ſouth; for, till the building of Moſley and Dean Streets, all carriages, waggons, &c. to avoid the narrow and inconvenient ſtreet, the Side, went by Manor-chare, Cowgate and the Quay, to the bridge.

This ſtreet, however unimportant it is now, in former times muſt have been of great conſequence, as it was the boundary or diviſion between the two towns of Newcaſtle, properly ſo called, and the ancient town of Pandon, which were united in the reign of Edward I. anno. 1299.

Whence this ſmall part of modern Newcaſtle had the name of Pandon, has mightily puzzled antiquarians. Mr Bourne, among other conjecturers, ſays, that it had this name from one of the gates of Rome named *Pandana*, becauſe that gate ſtood always open. Others, adds he, will have its derivation from one Pandara, a Scottiſh virgin ſaint; but for what reaſon they beſt know: and gravely adds, "for my part I never ſaw one yet!" It is a great pity, that this witticiſm is enveloped in ambiguity. The difficulty lies here, whether the good man thought it impoſſible for a Scotch virgin to be a ſaint, or a ſaint to be a Scotch virgin. Or as Horne Took lately in parliament told of a reverend gentleman, the chaplain of the Magdalen, who informed a young girl ſeeking admiſſion, and declaring herſelf a maid as her

her mother bore her, that ſhe muſt firſt go and *qualify*, before ſhe could be admitted; ſo the reverend hiſtorian probably meant, that a Scotch virgin muſt ceaſe to be one before ſhe can become a ſaint. But we will let this paſſage remain as we found it, and reſume our ſubject.

At the head of Manor-chare, but a little lower down, on the oppoſite ſide, is what is called Low-bridge, or Nether-dean-bridge. It was formerly a conveyance to St. Nicholas' church-yard, over the Dean. The bridge was ſtrongly cramped with iron, and was evidently of Roman work, as the wall extended at this place, by St. Nicholas' church-yard.---This narrow ſtreet conſiſts principally of ſhops for old cloaths, &c.

A little lower down, on the ſame ſide, the Painter-Hugh, or Heugh, by a ſteep deſcent, conducts us to nearly the foot of Dean-ſtreet. There is a flight of ſtone ſteps on one ſide, for the accommodation of foot paſſengers. Mr. Bourne derives this ſingular name from *painter*, a rope by which boats are moored or made faſt; and *hugh*, or *heugh*, a ſteep hill or bank. This indeed may have been the occaſion of this compound name, in old times; as it is well known that, before the river was embanked by the Quay, and adjacent buildings, the tide flowed up the Dean to the High-bridge.

On the oppoſite ſide, lower down, is Silver-ſtreet, which leads down a very ſteep hill, from Pilgrim-ſtreet to Pandon, which was anciently called All-Hallow-gate; it was likewiſe called Temple-gate. No doubt it had theſe names from its vicinity to All-Saints' church. The late Mr. Stokoe, attorney, who lived in Silver-ſtreet, had a title-deed, in which it is there

there called "Jew-gate, on the north ſide of the ſame ſtreet." It is probable that this ſtreet was called Jew-gate, from its being the reſidence of Jews, in former times: and dealing, as that people ſtill do, in ſilver ware, or plate, gave it the name of Silver-ſtreet.

At the very ſouthern extremity of Pilgrim-ſtreet, to the right hand, is another ſteep ſtreet, called the Dog-bank: it joins Cow-gate, which runs into the Broad-chare. Here old cloaths, kitchen utenſils, furniture, &c. are ſold.

On the right hand, at the foot of Pilgrim-ſtreet, is the Butcher-bank. It is ſo named from numbers of that profeſſion dwelling here, and having their ſtalls and ſlaughter-houſes in it. There is a daily fleſh-market kept in this place; which is found neceſſary, as there is no butcher-meat ſold in the great Fleſh-market but on Saturdays; and from the number and opulence of the inhabitants, the demand for this neceſſary article is very great.

But before we quit deſcribing the public ſtreets, and proceed to the ancient town of Pandon, and its vicinity, we, with high ſatisfaction, come to delineate the new ones of

MOSLEY-STREET AND DEAN-STREET.

In no inſtance of improvement, in this increaſing town, have the magiſtrates been more ſucceſsful, than in this alteration made on the public paſſages. It is in the recollection of almoſt every one, what miſerable communications there were, in former times, between Pilgrim-ſtreet and the Fleſh-market. The alleys were all narrow, dark, and terminated, mid-way between theſe two principal ſtreets, by a ſteep, frightful

ful deſcent, called a Dean, a receptacle of all the filth, butcher's offals, &c. of the neighbourhood; offenſive to all the ſenſes, and highly injurious to health, eſpecially in ſummer, when the air was charged with the putrid effluvia ſteaming from this ſink of filthineſs!

For above forty years back, (as we are informed by an intelligent friend) the magiſtrates had it in contemplation to remedy this intolerable grievance, and rid the town of ſo great a nuiſance. For this purpoſe, they made ſeveral purchaſes of houſes, which they meant to pull down, and form a communication between the extremities of the town, from the town-wall above Sandgate, (which they have now actually begun in that quarter) to Weſtgate-ſtreet. The execution of this deſign was retarded by the unforeſeen cataſtrophe of the falling of the old bridge over the Tyne; and urgent neceſſity requiring a new one, near thirty thouſand pounds of the public revenue were expended in finiſhing that extenſive undertaking.

However, in the year 1789, the corporation ſet ſeriouſly about proſecuting the intended improvements. For this purpoſe, an act of parliament was obtained. The deſign was committed to Mr. David Stephenſon, architect; who, in the execution of it, has done much honour to himſelf, and the moſt ſubſtantial ſervice to the public at large: and it is on this occaſion we take an opportunity of returning that gentleman our ſincere thanks for his many informing communications, with which we mean to enrich our work. This truly excellent improvement was finiſhed to the higheſt ſatisfaction, both of ſtrangers and of the inhabitants.

This

This ſtreet, extending from Pilgrim-ſtreet to the foot of the Fleſh-market, is handſome and well-built, of great width, with a foot-way of flag-ſtones on each ſide, which perfectly ſecures paſſengers againſt danger from the numerous waggons, coaches, and carriages, which are inceſſantly paſſing and repaſſing.

It is called Moſley-ſtreet in compliment to the late very worthy alderman of that name; who, though he did not ſhine as a ſpeaker, in the magiſterial body, yet having an ample fortune, and no direct heirs, he advanced large ſums to defray the expences attending theſe uſeful works.

On both ſides of Moſley-ſtreet, is one continued row of elegant ſhops and warehouſes. About the middle of the north ſide of this ſtreet is a neat Theatre. Separated from it by a large area for the conveniencies of the mail coaches, is the Poſt-office. *See Public Buildings.*

To complete the deſign, the Dean was arched over, and the valley filled up, upon which was formed a convenient and beautiful ſtreet, wide, airy, and well paved with a broad foot-way of fine flag-ſtones on each ſide. What a transformation! formerly a horrid, vaſt, nauſeous hollow, changed as by magic, into a fair row of magnificent houſes, ſhops, and depoſitaries of rich and valuable commodities, the productions of every region of the globe! "All is the gift of induſtry," ſays the Poet, which is wonderfully realized in the conſtruction of theſe two ſtreets.

The ſouth-end, or foot of Dean-ſtreet, falls into the ſtreet called the Side. It is ſo named from its ſloping ſituation down from the caſtle, with which the upper part of the houſes and narrow dark lanes are

joined There is a ſteep deſcent from the head of the Side to about the middle of it. About half-way down, it becomes more than double the width of the higher part. There was a poſtern, called the Eaſtern-poſtern of the caſtle, that communicated by a very narrow and ſteep flight of ſteps with the Side, a little above the middle of that ſtreet. It is vulgarly called the *Dog-loup*, or *leap*. At the Foot of the Side in the middle of the ſtreet, is Cale-croſs. *See Public Buildings.*

From the foot of Dean-ſtreet, to the foot of the Butcher-bank, the Side is large and extenſive, abounding with ſhops, warehouſes, compting-houſes, &c. it is one of the moſt public ſtreets of the town.

At the lower end of Manor-chare, there is a large area, nigh to which, ſays Bourne, was a place called the Iſland in former times, and in times of that hiſtorian it was called Alvey's Iſland, from the proprietor's name, Alvey. It was ſo named, becauſe upon the return of the tide, which regularly flowed here, it left a hill of ſand which it firſt ſurrounded, and then overflowed. The fiſh-market was held here, and the gate adjoining was called Fiſhergate. Before the alterations made about Stock-bridge, there were ſeveral ſtreets, which do not now exiſt; particularly one named Croſs-well-gate. It is reported, ſays Bourne, that the dwelling-houſe of the famous Roger Thornton was between Stock-bridge and Blyth's Nook. And incredible as it may appear, that, incomparably the greateſt man in Newcaſtle ſhould live in ſuch an obſcure ſpot, yet he ſeems to prove the fact, by obſerving that in his own days, Lord Scar-

Scarborough, into whoſe family the grand daughter of Roger Thornton was married, drew annual rents from many houſes nigh Stock-bridge.

Nor is it impoſſible; Auguſtus, emperor of the world, never would change the ſimple and moderate houſe, in which he dwelt many years, nor ever wore a toga, or gown, but what his empreſs Livia ſpun with her own hands.

The ſtreets, all about this obſcure part of the town, are narrow, winding, ill paved, and dirty: they are however conſtantly, though ſlowly, improving.

A ſtreet which winds up an high hill, from the ancient Fiſher-gate, ſtill retains the name of Wall-knoll, which it no doubt derived from the circumſtance of the Roman wall having gone over the top of it.

The SUBURBS of PANDON.

Without where the gate formerly was, to the left, we turn into what is called Pandon-Dean. A new ſtreet is faſt building, and many neat houſes are erected here. Some have ſuppoſed, that it is intended to run this row of houſes up the Dean, and join another new ſloping ſtreet from the eaſt end of Saville-row. Time will diſcover whether or no this was ever ſeriouſly intended.

Straight forward, without Pandon-gate, we aſcend by a pretty ſteep ſtreet, towards Shield-field. It is indifferently called Pandon-bank and Pandon-cauſeway. It is quite built, on the left, from the ſite of the old gate to the very top of the bank. The houſes are airy and pleaſant. The buildings on this ſide are terminated by an elegant houſe, juſt finiſhed, the property of Mr. Head. The eaſt ſide is confined by

a high brick wall, incloſing an extenſive garden, at the top of which is a large and commodious houſe, all belonging to Mr. Middleton Hewitſon. Adjacent to this are a number of beautiful houſes, forming two-thirds of a ſquare, named Wilkinſon's Buildings; the property of the late Mr. Thomas Wilkinſon, joiner and cabinet-maker, and one of the many ſucceſsful tradeſmen of this town.

This place is, in general, called Conduit-head, from the water being conveyed by pipes to ſupply the pants of the lower parts of the town, from a ciſtern in a garden at this place.

Directly north, by a paved way, we come to Shield-field. Theſe houſes are the property of Mr. Samuel Lawton, Mr. Page, and other gentlemen; and form the moſt pleaſant and airy retreat for men of buſineſs, of any in the vicinity of Newcaſtle.—— They command a moſt extenſive and entertaining proſpect, and have beautiful gardens adjoining. Why it obtained the name of Shield-field will be given in the *Hiſtory of events*.

The SUBURBS of SANDGATE.

The town-wall, from Sand-gate to the Carpenter's Tower, has been very high and ſtrong; which may have been the reaſon, (as Bourne ſays,) why the ſuburbs or houſes without the walls, in this part of the town, ſuffered leſs by the fury of the civil wars than the other buildings adjacent to the walls.

Sandgate-ſtreet has its name from its ſituation on the ſand by the river's ſide. It ſeems to be of no great antiquity; as we find, in an accurate plan of New-

Newcaſtle, taken by Speed, 1610, no appearance of houſes or buildings of any kind on the ſite of Sandgate. As the town-wall did not extend in this direction, and as the river, before its being embanked by the quay would overflow theſe places, it would, of conſequence, be an improper ſituation.

Juſt without the gate is a large area, called the Milk-market, where great quantities of that neceſſary of life are daily ſold. On Saturdays the whole ſtreet is covered, and the town-wall hung with old clothes, boots, ſhoes, &c. for ſale. Here reapers are hired for the harveſt, as alſo at the Barras-bridge; frequently on Sundays, to the offence of ſome of the ſerious; while others, equally well diſpoſed, contend, that even the reaping and gathering in of the harveſt ought not on any day to be prevented.

Here alſo is a daily Butcher-market, for the accommodation of the inhabitants in the lower parts of the town, which is very well ſupplied with that article; for this purpoſe, ſome covered ſtalls were erected, a few years ago, contiguous to the town-wall.

Sandgate-ſtreet, which contains many thouſand ſouls, is more crowded with inhabitants than any other place, either within or without the walls of the town. The lanes run from the ſtreet, on the right, down to the river; and on the left, up, by a very ſteep aſcent, to what is called the Garth-heads, and Sandgate New-road. They are dark, narrow, ill-paved, and noiſome. And in winter, as there are no lamps in Sandgate, nothing can be more diſagreeable than paſſing through this dark ſtreet, often ankle-deep in mud and filth at every ſtep.

A runner of water, called anciently, the Swirle, at preſent, vulgarly, the Squirrel, divides Sandgate, near the

the middle, from St. Anne's, which, in appearance, is only a continuation of the ſame ſtreet.

On the Garth-heads, above Sandgate, are two meeting-houſes for Diſſenters, and the Keelmen's Hoſpital.---*See churches, chapels, and public buildings.*

Sandgate is principally inhabited by thoſe who work in keels or lighters, of which claſs there are ſeveral thouſands on the river Tyne. They are a hardy and laborious race of men; and as they live almoſt entirely upon fleſh-meat and flour, of the beſt kinds, which the ſtrong exertions in their employment require, they poſſeſs a combination of nervous and muſcular ſtrength not to be found in any other claſs of men. Their children generally follow the ſame employment during their younger years, then go to ſea; and when a war breaks out, theſe hardy and bold ſailors, who had the firſt rudiments of ſeamanſhip in a coal-keel, form the pride and ſtrength of the Britiſh navy.

They have been generally repreſented as turbulent and mutinous. Dr. Smollet, in the continuation of his hiſtory of England, when deſcribing the unhappy riot which took place at Hexham, reſpecting the mode of lotting for men, adds, "and the mob, from the lenity of the officers, acquiring additional inſolence, and being reinforced by *a ſtrong body of deſperate keelmen from Newcaſtle*, became inſufferably outrageous," &c. It is a pity that the doctor dignified with the title of hiſtory ſuch an ill-founded and indiſcriminate ſlander upon ſuch an uſeful and, in general, peaceable, body of men; as, upon enquiry, in that vaſt mob of country people, there was not a ſingle keelman among them. It is true, they have a noiſy, blunt, rough manner of expreſſing themſelves; and, from

from the practice of hailing one another on the river, eſpecially in the night tides, they are loud and vociferous, but perfectly inoffenſive; and they ſcorn to ſhew what they think incivility or rudeneſs to any perſon. As they are the ſtrength and ſinews of the coal trade, rich and poor in Newcaſtle, in general, reſpect the keelmen.

But a circumſtance which reflects particular honour upon this valuable body, is, that although they conſiſt of many thouſands, yet amidſt all theſe, in the courſe of many years, a *convicted felon* among keelmen is unknown. And what is equally pleaſing, is, that they are daily loſing that ferocity and ſavage roughneſs, by which they were characterized not many years ago. Scarcely a day, and chiefly a Sunday, paſſed, but ſeveral bloody duels happened, decided by the fiſts of the fierce and hardy combatants; now, a battle among them is ſeldom or never ſeen. This amelioration of their morals may be owing to two powerful cauſes. The firſt is a change in their religious deportment. The great encreaſe of diſſenters, particularly of methodiſts, has had influence with many keelmen to join in their ſocieties. The other cauſe of this happy change, is owing to the excellent regulations obſerved in their boxes, or benefit ſocieties. By theſe, to ſtrike or ill-treat a brother, either with the hand or tongue, is a fine; to ſwear a profane oath makes them liable to a fine; to profane the Lord's day, or get drunk, is a fine; to ſteal, or commit any act of injuſtice, is expulſion. Theſe, and ſuch other rules, which they rigorouſly put in practice, have totally changed the whole civil and religious conduct of the keelmen of Newcaſtle. We have been the more circumſtantial in our delineation

of

of this laborious claſs, as the keelmen form a very conſequential part of the inhabitants of this vaſt mart of trade, of which the coal trade is the ſoul and ſpring of every other branch of buſineſs.

This uſeful body of men appear ſo far back as the year 1539, to have been a conſtituted fraternity. They are there termed, in a decree of the Star-chamber, "The craft of keelmen." In the year 1556 they appear to have been an independent ſociety.

In the year 1649, they occur as petitioning the hoſtmen to provide them with a chapel for worſhip, and a miniſter. Religion was then the faſhion of the times.

The number of gentlemen's carriages, as well as carriages for the various branches of trade and buſineſs, rapidly encreaſing in Newcaſtle and its vicinity, and as the paſſage through Sandgate was extremely inconvenient and hazardous, a new road, in the year 1776, for carriages leading paſt the keelmen's hoſpital, and behind the ſtreets of Sandgate, and St. Ann's, towards the north, was made by the commiſſioners and truſtees of the turnpike road leading from Newcaſtle to North Shields, having obtained, as appears from the common-council books, a leaſe of the ground neceſſary for that purpoſe, at the yearly rent of one ſhilling, from the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle. This improvement has been attended with the beſt effects; as the parents of numberleſs children, with which Sandgate ſwarms, were in continual terror of their being run down and cruſhed to death, by the carriages conſtantly driving through that ſtreet. Beſides the ſpeed of ſtage coaches, private carriages, &c. is greatly accelerated without dread or interruption.

The

The delightful and airy ſituation of the New-Road has induced many genteel people to build elegant houſes there. And during theſe late years, when ſuch immenſe quantities of foreign corn were imported, large granaries were erected on both ſides of the road. Theſe the people quaintly termed "*Egypt*," no doubt in alluſion to thoſe erected by Joſeph in ancient Egypt. The proprietors, however, ſo far from viewing this appellation as implying any diſgraceful idea, have actually given the name of "Egypt" to this new row of dwelling-houſes.

A little beyond theſe erections on the New-Road is a ropery upon a ballaſt-hill, which is ſaid to have been the firſt ballaſt-ſhore without the town of Newcaſtle. For which purpoſe, and that of building lime-kilns upon it, it appears by records in the Hoſtmen's books, to have been purchaſed by the mayor and burgeſſes of the lord of the manor of Byker.

Oppoſite St. Ann's chapel, (*ſee Churches, &c.*) adjacent to it, is a row of good houſes, agreeably ſituated both for air and a delightful view of the river and ſhipping, called St. Ann's Row. Going down by the turnpike road, we come to Ouſe-bourn, over which is a wide ſtone bridge, of one arch, with a convenient foot-path on both ſides.

But as the tide flows up this rivulet, and conſequently affords the convenience of water carriage, enterprizing tradeſmen have availed themſelves of this advantage, and have converted a large ſpace of almoſt uſeleſs ground, containing a few wretched houſes for pitmen, &c. into what has the appearance of a large town. On the weſt ſide of the bourn, ſtand a large ſpinning factory, a newly erected

ſteam corn-mill, &c. on the other ſide are large manufactories of all kinds of pottery-ware, giving employment to hundreds of people.

What is curious, in digging a foundation for the ſteam-mill above-mentioned, there was found a ſtone of about three feet in length, and about two feet ſquare. On the end of it is an inſcription, evidently Roman; but it is ſo much effaced, that it is next to impoſſible to decypher it. One gentleman, ſkilled in the Latin language, ſeemed to think it intimated that from the termination of the Roman wall on the weſt, or Soleway Firth, to this ſtation, was 60 miles. There is no doubt but that mighty barrier, in coming down Byker turnpike road, ran acroſs the rivulet at this place, and directly up to Red-barns and Wall-knoll; and as they no doubt had a bridge over this rivulet, which poſſibly was much broader in ancient times, this ſtone might have been one of thoſe placed on the bridge, directive of the diſtances, &c. This curioſity is now placed in Mr. Yellowley's garden above Buſy Cottage.

Going down by Ouſe-bourn, we come to a little narrow ſtone bridge, called the Glaſs-houſe bridge. In the neighbourhood are ſeveral dock-yards where many ſhips are built; paſſing over the bridge, we come to the glaſs-houſes, and further down on the river ſide is another large manufactory of the ſame kind. *See account of Glaſs-works.*

Adjoining to the upper glaſs-houſes, is the diſſenter's large burying-place. *See Chapels.*

Further down from the low glaſs-houſes, after paſſing more docks for ſhip-building, we come to St. Peter's Quay. It is there where Mr. William Row

Row is planning a dry dock, and where he is now building a new quay.

The ſtreets are paved chiefly with Scotch blue, or grey granite ſtones, heavy, compact, and extremely hard. They are found to be the moſt durable, and fitteſt to bear the preſſure of the vaſt number of waggons and heavy carriages which paſs here from all parts.

Yet it is remarkable, that, in a town of ſo much trade, with warehouſes ſo full of valuable commodities, the corporation was ſo long in adopting that admirable branch of municipal police, the great convenience of having nightly lamps in the ſtreets.

A propoſal was made and publiſhed in the year 1755, for lighting the town with *one hundred and fifty* lamps! But it was not till a ſubſequent period that even this took place, as we find by the following extract from the Newcaſtle Courant.

October 1, 1763. "Thurſday the lamps put up in the ſtreets of the town were lighted up for the firſt time." This was in conſequence of an act lately paſſed, "for lighting the ſtreets and other places, and maintaining a regular and nightly watch, within the town and county of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, for regulating the hackney coachmen, chairmen, cartmen, porters, and watermen, within the ſame." The ſmall number of lamps, and quantity of oil, have been a ſubject of complaint; how juſtly, is not for us to decide: it certainly would be more agreeable was the quantity of both doubled. To defray the expence attending this great convenience, the inhabitants are charged, in proportion to their rentals, at the rate of ſixpence per pound.

Such is a general view of the public ſtreets, and of

the moſt remarkable private buildings in Newcaſtle and its ſuburbs.

Of the Means of ſupplying the Town with Water.

To obtain a ſufficiency of this abſolute neceſſary of life, has ever claimed the attention of rulers and magiſtrates, in cities, towns, and even villages, in every country and in every age of the world. The ancient Greeks and Romans were careful in the extreme to have abundance of light, ſweet, wholeſome water. In their encampments, ſites of their cities, &c. they made choice of the ſituation always with a view to their obtaining an abundance of this element. And when the deſart, or ridges of mountains, waſtes, and ſolitudes, intervened, they then reared the mighty aqueduct, arch upon arch, to convey the ſalutary ſtream to the thirſty inhabitants of the crowded city. It is remarkable, that with all their knowledge in geometry, and other branches of ſcience, they were ignorant of this grand principle in hydroſtatics, that water will riſe horizontally to its level. Hence their lofty aqueducts, raiſed at vaſt expence, and always level with the ſource or ſpring; whereas, by obſerving the invariable law of nature, water, by leaden pipes, can be conveyed over mountains, through moraſſes, along bridges, nay, even beneath the beds of rivers, in any quantity, and at a thouſandth part of the expence. But a mighty advantage reſulted to mankind from the ignorance of the ancients in hydroſtatics; and that is, the thorough knowledge which they have communicated to the moderns of the *arch*, in all its forms, circular, eliptical, catenarian, &c. by which

theſe

theſe magnificent aqueducts, theſe prodigies of art, were reared; ſuch as that at Niſmes, in France, which ſeems one of the wonders of the world.

That the inhabitants of Newcaſtle have been particularly attentive to procure a ſufficiency of water, appears from the numerous ciſterns and wells all round the town, both within and without the walls. We have the fine wells which ſupplied both the Black and White Friars' monaſteries, with their large ſprings of excellent water, to this day. The eminences that almoſt ſurround Newcaſtle, would ſeem to indicate that plenty of good water might eaſily be procured; and this, upon trial, has been found to be the caſe.

The top of Pandon-bank is commonly called "Conduit-head." A reſervoir ſtill remains here, upon the grounds belonging to the late Rev. Nathaniel Elliſon, behind ſome buildings, which ſupplies Sandgate pant with water. There are many fine ſprings about this eminence; and it is a conjecture, not at all improbable, that about Conduit-head there has been, in ancient times, a large reſervoir for ſupplying the palace of the Saxon kings, and after that, the ſumptuous and ſtately monaſtery of the Carmelites, with water. If I might hazard a conjecture on the true etymon of Pandon, (ſays Brand) I would define it to mean, The Hill of the Pand, Pond, or Reſervoir. Dr. Thomas Henſhaw, in Skinner's Etymology, on the word pant, or pand, tells us, that pond was anciently pronounced pand, from a Saxon word *pyndan*, to encloſe or ſhut up. So that pant, the uſual name given to the erections over the wells in Newcaſtle, is no more than pand, by a very ſmall corruption, meaning a little reſervoir or pond.

But

But as the coal trade became rapidly more conſequential, commerce and buſineſs increaſing in proportion, numbers of people came to fix their reſidence at Newcaſtle. The wells of water, in and about the town, were found inadequate to the demands of the inhabitants, and afforded, at beſt, only a precarious ſupply. The mayor and burgeſſes ſet to work, ſo early as the reign of Edward III. anno 1349, to procure a permanent and ſufficient quantity, at ſome diſtance without the walls; which is the earlieſt account to be found of aqueducts bringing water into this town.

Leland tells us, that when he viſited this place, in the reign of Henry VIII. "there be three hedds of condutes for freſch water to the town."

More particularly we find, in July 26, 1647, an agreement between the corporation of Newcaſtle and Mr. William Gray, concerning water to be conveyed from his conduit in Pandon-bank to Sandgate. It appears, that part of the waſtes called King's-dikes had been granted to the ſaid Mr. Gray, by way of recompence. The mayor and burgeſſes are mentioned at the ſame time, as having a right to bring part of that water to the Manors, according to its ancient and accuſtomed courſe.

The common-council books of 1708 mention a liberty reſerved to the mayor and burgeſſes to dig and delve for water, and to take what part of Mr. Nichol's lands and grounds at Red Barnes, as ſhall ſeem meet for the advantage of water for the pants in Sandgate and the Keelmen's Hoſpital.

February 4th, 1654, there is an order of common-council for conveying the water from Cowgate, that came

came under ground from All-Hallows' church-end, and had become a nuiſance to that ſtreet.

March 2d, 1656, there was an order of common-council to treat concerning ſome water in Gallowgate, which was intended to be brought in, to ſupply the pants of Newcaſtle.

June 3d, 1657, there was a complaint before the common-council againſt Mr. Ralph Jenniſon, and Mr. William Wallis, coal owners, for having diverted a third part of the water uſually coming to the pants in Newcaſtle, by ſinking below the level of the water-courſe. Mr. Jenniſon was threatened with a proſecution on this occaſion; but on his ſubmiſſion, and ſtaying the workings, the common-council ſtopped their proceedings againſt him.

Similar complaints were made againſt other gentlemen, for working coal-pits, and digging quarries, by which the ſupply of water to the town was drained away.

December 16th, 1675, loud complaints were made of a total ſcarcity of water, owing to vaſt numbers of private families having pipes and cocks to their houſes. The common-council ordered the cocks to be ſtopped, or cut off.

January 1675, there was a committee of the common-council to conſider of a proper place for another pant, beſides that at Sandgate, about the Swirle, or or ſome convenient ſituation. It was erected at the eaſt end of Sandgate, where it now ſtands.

Auguſt 8, 1677, there was an order of common-council for the town's ſurveyor to build a well at Gallowgate, for the benefit of the burgeſſes and other inhabitants. It is there ſtill, and affords a large ſupply of good wholeſome water.

Octo-

October 4, 1680, a propoſal was laid before the common-council, by a Mr. Cuthbert Dikes, to erect a water-engine for ſupplying the town of Newcaſtle with water from the river Tyne, for the convenience of brew-houſes, victualling-houſes, &c. and thus ſave a great part of the ſpring water taken from the pants. A committee, appointed for this purpoſe, fixed on a place without Sandgate, where it was actually erected. This building was afterwards converted to large ſtore-houſes, &c. and is now called the "Foley," or commonly "Folly."

January 20, 1689, a pant was erected for the inhabitants of the Cloſe.

September 15, 1702, the building committee were ordered to take care to bring water into the town from the Caſtle Leazes. It was brought from thence in 1704, to a pant at the head of the Side, and alſo to one at Newgate.

June 29, 1709, a committee was ordered to erect a ciſtern at the end of the Caſtle Leazes, to renew and keep the water coming from thence to the pants of Newcaſtle.

Still the inhabitants increaſing, and conſequently the demand for water; therefore, finding the ſupplies, mentioned above, to have been inſufficient, they looked acroſs the river for an additional ſupply from Gateſhead-Fell, which, from its rocky and ſandy ſoil, ſeemed to afford what quantity might be neceſſary of wholeſome, well-filtered water.

We find, however, there was an order of common-council for a leaſe to be granted to Mr. William Yarnold, 1697, according to the covenants there viewed and agreed on, for erecting ciſterns and laying pipes in the town's liberties, in order to bring good and whole-

wholeſome water to the inhabitants of Newcaſtle. This was called the New-water, and came from Gateſhead-Fell, from a reſervoir which was ſupplied by three ſprings in Great Uſworth moor.

In the year 1700, the common council granted leave to William Yarnold, Gent. to erect a ciſtern on the top of Cale-croſs, carrying a pillar up in the middle, and laying on it a new roof of lead, at his own expence. He was allowed to erect a ciſtern at the White-croſs, on columns, removing the then pillar and dial. Both theſe croſſes have been pulled down, and new ones erected, but no ciſterns, as before.

June 29, 1700, the new water was ordered to be brought out at a pillar, to be placed at the Head of the Side pant, where three ſpouts were to be fixed.

In the year 1706, a pant was erected at Weſtgate, petitioned for by the inhabitants of that ſtreet.

In conſequence of the inceſſant complaints, from year to year, of the ſcarcity of water, in the year 1737 there was an order of the common-council that the public water ſhould not be conveyed into the houſes of any of the inhabitants of Newcaſtle, except thoſe of the mayor, recorder, aldermen, ſheriff, and town-clerk.

In 1743, the water being conveyed to the brewery of Mr. Chriſtopher Rutter, which ought to ſupply the pant near the houſe of Sir Walter Blackett, was ordered to be cut off, and conveyed to the public pant there.

December 17, 1767, a committee was appointed by the common-council to conſider how the town might be ſupplied with good and wholeſome water. That the corporation might proceed on ſolid princi-

ples, they invited, by public advertiſement, gentlemen of ſcience, particularly in chemical analyſis, to examine the qualities of the reſpective waters in the vicinity of Newcaſtle. This drew forth the talents of Drs. Rotheram, Wilſon, Hall, and others, on the ſubject of the comparative qualities of water, for lightneſs, ſweetneſs, and attainable quantity. Dr. Rotheram publiſhed his ſentiments on the ſubject in a pamphlet, price 2s. 6d. This was attacked with great ability, but alſo with ſome aſperity, by a Mr. Tytler, chemiſt, at that time in Gateſhead. Doctors Wilſon and Hall alſo publiſhed their joint ſentiments on the ſubject; as did Mr. Tytler his obſervations on the quality of waters in and near this town, in which he charged Dr. Rotheram with having prejudiced the public againſt Coxlodge water, which had on a memorable occaſion, at Bath, been called "throwing a toad into the ſpring."

The magiſtrates, however, not confining the information they might receive by the enquiries of theſe profeſſional gentlemen, eſpecially as, which is not ſeldom the caſe, the "Doctors diſagreed," had the precaution to tranſmit ſamples of the different waters in and about Newcaſtle to Dr. Black, profeſſor of chemiſtry, at Edinburgh, and to Dr. Saunders, lecturer on chemiſtry, at London. The reſult of all which was, that they gave the preference to Coxlodge water. This report Mr. Richard Lambert, ſurgeon, was directed to publiſh in the Newcaſtle Courant, which was accordingly inſerted in that news-paper, November 3, 1770.

The opinions of theſe chemical philoſophers, the firſt of their profeſſion in Europe, determined the choice of the magiſtrates of Newcaſtle.

Accord-

Accordingly, on the 19th of September, 1770, the common-council ordered a leaſe, under their ſeal, to be granted to Mr. Ralph Lodge, and the other proprietors of the undertaking, to ſupply the town of Newcaſtle with good water, of a piece of ground at the foot or ſouth end of the Town-moor, with liberty to dig and make a reſervoir there, and to erect, ſet up, and make one hundred fire-plugs, or ſuch further number as ſhould be wanted, in convenient and proper parts of the town, within or without the walls, at the direction of the common-council, to be uſed for extinguiſhing caſual fires; as alſo to make a proper pipe-trench, and lay and keep pipes therein, for bringing water from Coxlodge grounds, through the Town-moor, to the ſaid reſervoir, and from thence into the town, for the term of two hundred and twenty-ſeven years, from the 11th day of October following, at the annual rent of thirteen ſhillings and fourpence. On condition alſo, that the mayor and burgeſſes ſhould pay fifty pounds per annum to the ſaid proprietors for the above hundred fire-plugs, and ten ſhillings a-piece yearly for any others that might be wanted.

December 18, 1777, there was an order of common-council to empower Mr. Richard Brown, colliery viewer, and Mr. John Fenwick, town's ſurveyor, to proceed in the neceſſary works for conveying the water in Spring Gardens, at the head of Gallowgate, into the town of Newcaſtle, for the uſe of the public at large, agreeable to the particulars and eſtimate that had been laid before them.

This water had been generouſly proffered to the public by George Stephenſon, Eſq. of Elſwick, in a

letter addreſſed to the common-council, who accepted his kind offer, and are ſaid to have expended five hundred pounds in preparing aqueducts for conveying it into the town.

We hope to be excuſed in being rather copious in the detailed account which we have preſented to our readers, of the attempts which the corporation of this town have made, for a number of years, nay centuries paſt, to obtain and ſecure a ſufficient ſupply of this moſt neceſſary of all elements, for the ſupport and comfort of human life. The linen, the complexion, the livelineſs of the inhabitants of any large town, like this, are known by the quality of the water which they enjoy. And if we cannot aſſent to the maxim of the Grecian ſage, who affirmed, that "water is not only the beſt of all the elements, but it is the firſt principle and origin of all things;" yet we can ſay with him, it is a pure, pleaſant, and delightful element, and without which man could not exiſt. It mingles with, and forms the greateſt part of the maſs of our blood; it penetrates our arteries, veins, nerves, and, in a word, pervades our whole animal frame: the magiſtrates, therefore, who are aſſiduous in procuring an ample ſupply of this moſt neceſſary fluid deſerve well of their fellow citizens. It is remarkable what prodigious pains and expence the magiſtrates of the firſt city in the world, London, have employed to procure, at any expence, and from any diſtance, ſuch abundance of ſoft, delicious water, as is not to be equalled in any capital in the world.

It has long been the pride and boaſt of Newcaſtle, that the inhabitants enjoy, with no very great expence, *the way, the water, and the word.*

Before

Before we proceed to the more intereſting branches of our hiſtory, we may, to avoid confuſion, in this place, give an account of the

Boundaries of the Town of Newcaſtle.

When the mayor and burgeſſes perambulate the boundaries of their liberties, they proceed as follows. They go from the Guildhall to the blue ſtone on the bridge; from thence, along the Cloſe, to the boundary-ſtone ſtanding againſt the eaſt corner of the iron foundery, immediately on the weſt ſide of the runner called Skinner's-bourn; up that bourn, on the weſt ſide of the ground belonging to the Infirmary, and through the garden of the late Mr. Geo. Anderſon, to the Weſt-gate; from thence, up the lane, to a ſtone nearly oppoſite to St. John's poor-houſe: from thence eaſtward, down the lane to Gallowgate; thence croſſing a low houſe near the pant, through a part of the ground called Spring-gardens; thence onward, by the inſide of the dykes, by the boundary-ſtones in the lands of Elſwick; from thence, on the inſide of the hedge on the weſt ſide of the Town-moor, by the boundary-ſtones on the lands of Fenham: croſs the Ponteland turnpike-road, then by the inſide of the hedges, to the north-weſt corner of the Nun's-moor, in the lands of Kenton and Coxlodge; by the north ſide of the Nun's and Town-moor, to the Morpeth turnpike; croſſing which, by the boundary-ſtones, in the inſide of the hedges, of the lands of Gosforth, on the north-eaſt corner of the Town-moor; then croſſing the road leading to Killingworth, &c. ſouthward by the boundary-ſtones on the inſide of the hedges of the lands of Jeſmond, to the

the Barras-bridge; thence, along the lane, to Sandiford-bridge; thence ſouthward, through the Shield-field, over a houſe there, adjoining to the road leading to Ouſe-bourn; thence on a line ſouthward, by the eaſt ſide of the Red-barns pond, to the boundary-ſtone at the eaſt corner of the garden-wall of the Red-barns; then eaſtward, by the boundary-ſtones, to the Ouſe-bourn, croſſing a little above the Gib, the boundary-line trends ſouth-eaſt to the ſouth ſide of the houſes on the ſouth ſide of Shields turnpike, near to the gate: from thence, by the lands of Byker, to St. Lawrence's Dyke; then ſouthward, to the boundary ſtone ſtanding on the eaſt ſide of the runner near the gate leading from St. Peter's Quay to the Muſhroom glaſshouſes; thence by the Glaſshouſe-bridge, up the road, to the Shields turnpike; thence through St. Ann's-ſtreet, to the Swirle, the ancient boundary eaſtward of the town; through Sandgate, along the Quayſide and the Sandhill, to Guildhall.

Such are the boundaries of this famous and ancient town; which is ten miles and fifty yards in circumference.

In the year 1751, an order of common-council was made, that the boundaries of the town, by land, ſhould be perambulated once in three years; which has been obſerved, in general, ever ſince.

The day appointed for riding the boundaries is, when the weather happens to be favourable, devoted to general feſtivity and amuſement, eſpecially by the younger part of the inhabitants. They attend in crowds; and when the boundary-ſtones are ſaluted, by the mayor and his ſuite, with parcels of currants, raiſins, confections, &c. the conteſt for a participation in the delicious ſcramble is arduous and violent;

violent; ſo that often a young competitor is overthrown in the unequal ſtruggle; who, however, ſoon recovers his former poſition, ready for a freſh exertion of activity at the next boundary-ſtone.

Theſe extenſive poſſeſſions of the free burgeſſes of Newcaſtle are continually increaſing in value and conſequence.—*See Public Revenues of the town.*

It would be an omiſſion highly reprehenſible, if we did not give a particular account of this extenſive public property. To proceed regularly, we begin with that part which lies fartheſt ſouth, and ſo on northward.

The FORTH.

From Skinner-bourn to the top of the hill, including the ſite of the Infirmary, *(for an account of which ſee Public Inſtitutions)* is the place called the Forth, anciently named (ſays Bourne) the Firth; which lies without the walls of the town, adjoining, on the ſouth, to a certain little cloſe, called Gooſe-green-cloſe; then it extends to another incloſure, named Dove-cote-cloſe; and from thence weſtward, to the fartheſt ditch of that cloſe, which is the common way that leads into what is properly named the Forth. It contains eleven acres of ground, was ſurveyed by order of the long parliament, in the year 1649, and then valued at twelve pounds per annum.

It was valued tithe-free. The corporation paid four pounds per annum to the king for it.

How it obtained this particular name of Forth, anciently called Firth, is not eaſy to form any certain conjecture. For the term forth, or firth, is uſually, if not always, applied to an extenſive inlet or arm of the ſea.

Bourne's

Bourne's conjecture is amuſing, if it be not correct. He quotes from Blount's law dictionary, or the etymology of the word forth or frith, that it is derived from the Saxon word *frith*, which ſignifies *peace;* as if a portion of the ſea, retiring from the tempeſtuous ocean, ſeeks a calm retreat in the boſom of ſome winding bay. For the Saxons held ſeveral woods to be ſacred; and that people, who were then poſſeſſed of Northumberland, and this place particularly, inhabiting about thoſe parts of the wall where the town now is, gave the name of *frith*, or *peace*, to this ſequeſtered ſituation; as, by the gloomineſs of the trees, with which it then abounded, a kind of melancholy devotion was thereby excited in the ſuperſtitious minds of thoſe blinded heathens.

However that be, ſo remote as the reign of Henry III. a licence was granted to the townſmen of Newcaſtle to dig coals and ſtones in this place called the Forth. And here it was, as ſome imagine, that the firſt coals about Newcaſtle were wrought. Others think that this mineral, afterwards ſo univerſally uſed, and, to this town, ſo advantageous, was firſt diſcovered and applied to the purpoſes of fuel, in the Caſtle Leazes.

This pleaſant piece of ground has been ever employed as a place for drying linen, as well as for the recreation of the town's-people. This appears to be the caſe; for, in the year 1657, a bowling-green was made, and a tavern built, with a balcony projecting from the front, and a parapet wall; from whence the ſpectators, calmly ſmoking their pipes and enjoying their glaſſes, beheld the ſportſmen.

And

To heighten the pleaſantneſs of the Forth, a wall, forming a ſquare, was built all around it, and two rows of lime trees, at equal diſtances, were planted within the wall; which, in a ſhort time, formed a complete ſhade for the inhabitants, who frequented this kind of Lyceum, in their morning and evening walks. Theſe trees were brought from Holland; ſince they were cut ſquare over, at about fifteen feet from the ground, for years they ſhot out afreſh, but they are now going faſt to decay.

It ſeems all along, ſays Bourne, to have been a place of recreation. For it was an ancient cuſtom for the mayor, aldermen, and ſheriff of Newcaſtle, accompanied by a great number of burgeſſes, to proceed every year, at the feaſts of Eaſter and Whitſuntide, to this place, with the maces, ſword, and cap of maintenance, carried before them. The great concourſe ſtill, eſpecially of the younger part of the community, at theſe ſeaſons, and at this place in particular, are the remains of this ancient and ſimple cuſtom.

The elevated ſituation of this delightful ſpot, its vicinity to the town, its commanding proſpect of the adjacent country, all tend to render it exceedingly pleaſant.

But of late, the conſtant exerciſing of troops on the green, and putting horſes and cattle upon the neighbouring field, have greatly defaced the beauty of the place, and entirely ſubverted its original and peaceful intention.

Here are ſome fine private dwelling-houſes, with elegant gardens before them; alſo a large public building, cloſe to the Forth-houſe, called the Circus, erected for a place of exerciſe to inſtruct young gen-

tlemen in the manly practice of horſemanſhip. Mr. Jones did not meet with adequate encouragement, and the Circus is now converted into a large work-ſhop, by Mr. Thomas Dudgeon, an ingenious mill-wright and engineer.

Grey ſays, that the Forth was given to the townſmen by Edward III. for ſervices done to that prince. Bourne thinks, if this is correct, it was for the bold exploit of ſallying out, defeating the Earl of Murray's army, who then were beſieging Newcaſtle, and taking him priſoner, anno 1342.

A little farther north is

WARDEN's CLOSE.

This portion of the town's lands formerly belonged to the warden of Tynemouth Priory. Here, ſays Grey, he had his houſe, garden, and fiſh-pond. This might be the caſe, as the monaſtery of Black-friars was adjacent to Warden's Cloſe, and was dependent on the Priory of Tynemouth; and from that field, that brotherhood had their ciſtern of water. The Lunatic Hoſpital is built here, of which, and of the beautiful New Medical Baths, *ſee Public Foundations, &c.*

Still northward, another field adjoining to Warden's Cloſe was, from its ſhape, called Shoulder of Mutton Cloſe. In it, in former times, was a ciſtern of fine water. This field, or cloſe, is now converted into a large kitchen garden, and a number of ſmall pleaſant ſpots, let out to different perſons.

We now come to the moſt valuable and extenſive of the land-property of the free burgeſſes of Newcaſtle, viz.

The CASTLE-LEAZES, &c.

This large tract of ground belongs to the town, and contains (ſays Bourne) one hundred and forty-one acres of valuable land. Grey informs us, that the Caſtle-Leazes, or Caſtle-Field, was the gift of king John to the good men of Newcaſtle. He adds, "However this be, it is certain that it had been the property of the town, even ſo far back as in the reign of king Edward III.; for, in the 31ſt year of that prince's reign, the town of Newcaſtle took an inquiſition, in the Caſtle-Field, on a Palm-Sunday eve, deſiring the confirmation of the Caſtle-Moor and Field, and the privileges belonging to them.---- And the king, by his letters patent, dated at Weſtminſter, confirmed to the burgeſſes of Newcaſtle the other charters they had obtained, and alſo the poſſeſſion of the Caſtle-Moor and Caſtle-Field.— He alſo, as appears by the ſaid charters, confirmed to the burgeſſes, and their heirs, the liberty of digging coals, ſtone, and all other advantages ariſing from the ſaid Caſtle-Moor."

This important charter, the baſis of the burgeſſes' rights to the Town-Moor, &c. runs thus:—"*Nos conceſſimus pro nobis et heredibus noſtris, &c.*" "*We grant for us and our heirs, that the aforeſaid burgeſſes and their heirs have and hold the aforeſaid moor and lands, &c.*"

The mill in the Caſtle-Leazes, commonly called Chimley-mill, upon the rivulet named Bailiff-bourn, and the other, called Little Mill, were valued by an inquiſition, and ordered by parliament, 1649, at ten pounds per annum for each mill. The whole Forth

and Town-Moor were valued, at the ſame time, at twenty-ſeven pounds per annum. This ground was always valued tythe-free.

On this tract of the town's ground, the late Mr. Smith built, a few years ago, an extenſive manufactory for tobacco and ſnuff, with ſome elegant dwelling-houſes and gardens. They are ſtill poſſeſſed by Mr. Harriſon, his ſon-in-law.

Another material and extenſive part of the town-lands is

The TOWN-MOOR.

It is, ſays Bourne, a very ſpacious piece of ground, containing 1037 acres 1 rood 2 perches. In very remote times, it is ſaid to have been a wood, famous for oaks, out of which have been built many hundreds of ſhips, and alſo all the houſes of the old town of Newcaſtle. Whether the houſes were built from oaks cut upon the Town-moor or not, is not eaſily aſcertained; but that moſt of the houſes on the Sand-hill, the Cloſe, &c. were built with that wood, is certainly true; for, from dates on ſome of them, they are of great antiquity.

The Moor, together with the Caſtle-Leazes, called alſo the Caſtle-moor and Caſtle-field, were the right of the town, and accounted ſo, in the reign of king Edward III. who, in the freſh charter which he gave the town, confirmed to the burgeſſes all their former privileges, their holding of thoſe lands, working coal, ſtones, &c. in them, together with all the profits ariſing from them, in the ſame manner he had confirmed all the immunities and privileges which had been granted by the kings, his predeceſſors, to the burgeſſes of Newcaſtle.

The

The ancient bounds of the Town-moor, which are the ſame at this day, are thus deſcribed in the above charter of king Edward III. viz. "From a certain place called Thorn-buſh, near the Croſs; (which ſeems to have been on the north ſide of the Barras-bridge, near a Croſs which was erected there before St. James's chapel, and which was thrown down by the town-ſurveyor, no doubt to prevent what he thought idolatry) and then, by certain diviſions, ſet up towards the ſaid town of Newcaſtle, as far as the gallows, one poſt of which ſtood on the boundary between the land of the prior of Tynemouth, and the other on that of the town of Newcaſtle; and ſo on by the Quarrel-dyke, (that is, the Quarry-dyke) and thence, by the king's way, to the ſaid town."

By an inquiſition taken at the Caſtle of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, Auguſt 13, in the 18th year of the reign of James I. Caſtle-moor appears to have contained 848 acres; and the boundaries are deſcribed, at that time, as beginning at a certain houſe, called Sick-man's-houſe, on the ſouth, and ſo extending to the fields of Jeſmond on the eaſt, to a certain corner there; and from thence turning weſtward, to the gate leading from Newcaſtle to Morpeth, and ſo on weſtward, near the limits of Coxlodge, on the north, to the corner of the Nun's-moor: on the weſt, to a certain corner, where a hedge was anciently, near the Cow-gate, leading from Newcaſtle to Hexham; by the boundaries of the fields of Elſwick, on the ſouth, to the gallows; and from thence turning weſtward and north, by the bounds and territories of Eaſt-field on the weſt, to a certain corner of the Caſtle-field; and turning ſouth and eaſt, by the boundaries of the Caſtle-field on the ſouth, to the ſaid houſe, called Sick-man's-houſe.

In

In the times of the commonwealth, it was reported, ſays Bourne, that the coal-mine, or colliery, in the Town-moor extended itſelf one hundred acres, and that the value of it was to the town thirty-five pounds per annum.

In the year 1739, an advertiſement appeared in the Courant paper, to "let the colliery of the Town-moor." By this it would appear, that the deſign entertained by the corporation, of "claiming the royalty, minerals, and ſurface of this extenſive property," was not ſuddenly taken up, in 1770; the open avowal of which occaſioned the famous trial, of which we will give an impartial account.

Upon the petition of Humphrey Gill and John Cooke, dated October 28, 1657, to make a way, and bring coals out of Fenham-fields, over the Town-moor, at the diſtance of ſixty yards from the high-way leading over the ſaid moor; leave was given by the common-council, to cauſe a gate to be hung, and the way to be paved from the gate, to the ſaid high-way, upon Mr. Ord, of Fenham, paying annually one ſhilling. This, and other ſimilar grants, gave great offence to the burgeſſes, and produced hot and fierce contention in the public meetings.

In the year 1747, the turnpike-road, over the Town-moor, on the way leading to Morpeth, was begun by the corporation, at their own expence. It was in the form of a large cauſeway, eleven yards in breadth, well paved with whinſtones, and was completed in the year 1749; William Joyce, ſurveyor. That from Gallowgate to Weſt Cowgate, was made anno 1753.

Newcaſtle has not, like towns of leſs conſequence and opulence, affected taking the lead in faſhionable amuſe-

amuſements. Horſe-races, which at preſent are annually run upon the Town-moor, appear formerly to have been run upon Killingworth-moor, in the vicinity of that town. But, by an act of common-council, a race-ground was formed on the Town-moor; and in the year 1756, another order, by the ſame authority, was given, for ſeventy-five pounds to be laid out towards putting the race-ground in good condition. The courſe is two miles in circumference, and is excellently calculated for that amuſement.

But as the races always take place in June, and about the ſummer ſolſtice, it frequently happens to be rainy weather; luckily for victuallers, but luckleſs indeed for pedeſtrian ſpectators, who are often completely drenched.

This year, 1801, the races at Newcaſtle were attended by the greateſt number of running horſes ever known north of Newmarket and York; near fifty being entered for the various ſweepſtakes, plates, and matches, during the week.

Adjacent to the ſtarting-poſt, Mr. Loftus has erected an elegant edifice, two ſtories high, now called the *Grand Stand*, which, being built of ſtone, preſents a very ſtriking appearance. It is intended, not merely as a place of accommodation for ſpectators at the races, but as a public tavern during the ſummer ſeaſon, being handſomely furniſhed and fitted up for that purpoſe. The external aſpect of the building is equal to that of any gentleman's manſion in the neighbourhood, and from the galleries on its roof the ſpectators command a view nearly all round the courſe.

The firſt king's purſe of an hundred guineas, run for upon the Town-moor, was won by a horſe called Cato,

Cato, the property of George Bowes, Eſq. June 5th, 1753.

NUN's MOOR.

This large tract lies between the thorn-buſh and the hedge that ſeparates it from the grounds of Kenton. Richard I. confirmed to St. Mary's and the nuns of St. Bartholomew, the lands which had been granted them by Aſelack, the founder of that hoſpital. The land, from its becoming the property of theſe nuns, got the name of Nun's Field, or Nun's Moor. In the fourth year of Henry VIII. Dame Joan, prioreſs of the monaſtery of St. Bartholomew, and the convent of the ſame, granted a leaſe of the Nun's Moor for one hundred years, at the annual rent of twenty-three ſhillings and fourpence, to the mayor and commonalty of Newcaſtle.

After the diſſolution of the aforeſaid monaſtery, it became the property, by royal grants, of ſeveral gentlemen; and, in the year 1651, it was purchaſed from Mr. Charles Brandling, of Gateſhead, by the corporation of Newcaſtle, who have annexed it to the Town-moor.

Thus this vaſt extent of uncultivated land generally named the Town-moor has been conveyed down from time immemorial to the free burgeſſes of Newcaſtle, to this day, and who conſider it not only as the moſt ſubſtantial mark of the paternal regard of their forefathers for the real intereſts of their poſterity, but alſo, as it conſtitutes the moſt unalienable, ſo it is the moſt valuable of their franchiſes and property, as burgeſſes and freemen!

The value of lands, however, continually riſing, and it being well known that the ſeams of coal in the

the Town-moor might, if wrought, be of prodigious value, that extenſive tract of ground became, a few years ſince, an object of general attention, both on account of the improveableneſs of its ſoil, and of the valuable minerals which it contains.

From motives which we do not pretend to be acquainted with, the common-council inſerted an advertiſement in the Newcaſtle Courant, December 31, 1771, intimating that that part of the Town-moor lying on the weſtern turnpike road, from Gallowgate quarry to the Weſt Cowgate, containing about eighty-nine acres, was to be let, for the purpoſe of being cultivated and improved. Such was the tenor of this memorable advertiſement.

We ſhall give the ſentiments of Mr. Brand upon this tranſaction.——"This matter (ſays that hiſtorian) occaſioned a violent diſpute between the mayor and common-council, and ſome of the burgeſſes. Serjeant Glynn, recorder of London, was invited down to Newcaſtle, on behalf of the burgeſſes in this affair; and by his mediation at the aſſizes, Auguſt 10, 1773, it was agreed that the leaſing of the Town-moor ſhould be ſettled by act of parliament. The burgeſſes (adds he) in the oppoſition called the agreement made on this occaſion a victory, and appointed a committee of delegates from each company to carry on the heads of a bill to be preſented to parliament, in the adjuſting of which they had no ſmall altercation with the magiſtrates. The act paſſed for this purpoſe A. D. 1774, 14 Geo. III."—*Brand's Hiſt. vol.* 1. *p.* 436.

The ſentence of the court was in the following terms.

Town and County of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, and County of the ſame Town. } At the aſſizes held at the Guildhall of the ſaid town, in and for the ſaid town and county of the ſame, on Saturday the 7th day of Auguſt, 13 of Geo. III. &c. before the hon. Sir Henry Gould, knight, one of the juſtices of his majeſty's court of Common Pleas, and the hon. Sir William Blackſtone, knight, one of the juſtices of the ſame court, two of his majeſty's juſtices aſſigned to take the aſſizes according to the ſtatute, &c.

Hopper verſus Bayles & alios. } It is ordered by the conſent of ſaid parties, their counſel and attornies, that the laſt juror of the jury empannelled and ſworn in this cauſe ſhall be withdrawn from the pannel; and by the like conſent, and by the conſent of William Gibſon, Eſq. town-clerk of Newcaſtle aforeſaid, on behalf of the common-council aforeſaid, &c. it is agreed and ordered, that an application ſhall be made for an act of parliament to eſtabliſh forever to reſident freemen, and the reſident widows of deceaſed freemen of the town of Newcaſtle aforeſaid, the full right and benefit to the herbage of the Town-moor for two milk cows, in the manner in which it has been uſed, ſubject to ſuch reſtrictions and regulations as ſhall be judged neceſſary for the culture and improvement of the common, and ſhall be preſcribed in the act, which are to be ſettled and agreed upon by two perſons, one to be named by the common-council, and the other by the ſtewards of the companies, or the major part of them. Such two perſons to be named before the firſt day of November next; and in caſe they cannot agree, they two are to chuſe a third perſon for the purpoſe aforeſaid, by agreement, or ballot. And it is further ordered, that the rents to ariſe from the leaſes of parts of the Town-moor aforeſaid (which may be made for improving the common) ſhall be applied to the uſe of the poor freemen, and poor widows of freemen, in the manner to be preſcribed by the ſaid act. And it is alſo ordered, that the quantity to be incloſed for improvement, at any one period, ſhall not exceed one hundred acres; and that ſuch rights ſhall be reſtored to the corporation of Newcaſtle as owners of the ſoil, as they are intitled unto. And it is alſo ordered, that the expences of the ſaid act, and alſo the coſts in this action of the plaintiff, and the coſts not exceeding 300l. of the defendants, ſhall be paid out of the public revenue of the ſaid corporation.

And

And laſtly, it is ordered, that all parties perform this order, and that this order ſhall be made a rule of his majeſty's court of Common Pleas, if the juſtices of ſaid court ſhall ſo pleaſe.

By the court,

RIGGE.

"In commemoration of this event," ſays Brand, "and as a reward to the above committee, who conducted the cauſe of the burgeſſes, the members thereof were unanimouſly preſented with the freedom of ſeveral of the companies. That of the Taylors preſented each of the committee with a gold ring, in the ſignet of each of which, under a cryſtal, was repreſented Liberty ſtepping out of her temple, with a label proceeding from her mouth, inſcribed "*Town-moor ſaved Auguſt 10th, 1773.*" On the inſide, "*Concordia parvæ res creſcunt:*" "*By concord ſmall things encreaſe.*" Round the inner verge, "*Taylor's Comp. to .....*" (naming each member). And round the outer verge this motto: "*Vox populi, vox Dei:*" "*The voice of the people is the voice of God.*"

Such is the account given by Mr. Brand of this famous trial, the happy effects of which, it is to be hoped, will be enjoyed by all parties to the remoteſt ages.

But, as that hiſtorian was, and ſtill continues to be, charged with courtly partiality towards thoſe in power, (although his hiſtory occaſioned the heavieſt blow being given to the corporation that it ever received ſince its exiſtence) we ſhall ſubjoin another account of that cauſe, and the iſſue of it, by one of the moſt enlightened burgeſſes, who was thoroughly acquainted with the whole procedure, and was an eye-witneſs to the cauſe in every ſtage of its pro-

greſs; and alſo the ſubſtance of the act of parliament, which Mr. Brand has not inſerted in his hiſtory.

"Mr. Brand, ſpeaking of the advertiſement for letting part of the moor, ſays, 'a ſimilar deſign had been in agitation ſome time before, but was ſet aſide by the mayor and common-council, as impracticable.' Happy would it have been (adds our anonymous author) had they continued in that opinion. This, however, they altered, and actually let the premiſes to one Hopper, a quaker, for a term of years. The burgeſſes, deeming this an illegal act, took the advice of able counſel in London, who recommended them to commit a treſpaſs upon the alterations made by Hopper, which they did, by breaking down the hedge incloſing the field then growing corn, and turning their own cattle into the incloſure. On this, an action was brought againſt certain of the burgeſſes for the treſpaſs, before judge Gould, at the aſſizes held at Newcaſtle, anno 1773. Serjeant Glynn, then recorder of London, and member of parliament for the county of Middleſex, was retained by the burgeſſes, or rather benevolently came to free them from their oppreſſors.

"The cauſe was opened by counſellor Wallace, (afterwards attorney-general) on behalf of the proſecution. Serjeant Glynn admitted the treſpaſs, and claimed the right of pleading to the cuſtom, which being allowed, he proved by the charter of king John, confirmed by Edward III. and other ſucceeding monarchs of England, to the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, that the Town-moor had been unalienably granted to the burgeſſes of Newcaſtle, and their ſucceſſors, forever, under a certain fee-farm rent, paid

paid by them to the crown previous to the reign of king John, which Edward III. had fully confirmed, with the farther privilege of digging coals, ſtones, mines, minerals, &c. therein. to their own uſe and benefit, without any lett or hindrance, from him, his heirs, and ſucceſſors; and alſo of the later cuſtom of the reſident burgeſſes, and the reſident widows of burgeſſes, depaſturing their milk-cows thereon, under certain regulations for the benefit of the general paſturage. This the learned counſel demonſtrated in ſuch a full, explicit, and impreſſive manner, to the ſatisfaction of a numerous audience, that when he had cloſed his eloquent defence, and counſellor Wallace was aſked if he did not mean to make a reply, the latter returned this memorable anſwer: '*How can I reply? He has pounded me in a common, and I cannot get out.*' This is what Mr. Brand calls the '*Serjeant's mediation.*' But it was manifeſt to every one preſent, that the corporation had not a ſingle foot to ſtand on in ſupport of their claim of a right to let the moor, which was what they contended for; nor could ſuch of the magiſtrates as were called upon give any ſatisfactory anſwers to the queſtions put to them, but ſeemed to be all entirely diſconcerted: one indeed was ſo completely at a loſs, that he deſired permiſſion of the court to go home to obtain ſome minutes to refreſh his memory, which was granted; but the buſineſs was compromiſed by agreement before his return, by withdrawing a juror, the corporation agreeing to pay every expence, and that alſo of obtaining an act of parliament for a permanent ſettlement of the buſineſs.

"The ſubſtance of the act obtained in conſequence of the verdict paſſed at the aſſizes was, that the direction

rection of the preſcribed management of the tillage was veſted in the ſtewards of the incorporated companies, who receive and diſtribute the profits arifing therefrom, as the act directs. That part, weſt of the weſt turnpike, which had been let to Mr. Hopper, with a parcel of ground to the eaſtward thereof, making together an hundred acres, was publicly let in the Guildhall, according to the new act for that purpoſe, to Mr. Richard Chambers, tanner, for ſeven years, at ſo much per acre.

" Another parcel of equal ſpace was next let to Mr. Coulſon of Jeſmond, for the like term, and at a fixed rate per acre. But a diſpute arifing between the leſſors and leſſee, relative to the mode of cultivation, it was terminated by a trial at the aſſizes, when the leſſors, who were the proſecutors, obtained a verdict with damages. After this, it being conceived that the beſt means to effect the real improvement of the ſoil of the moor, would be to let the leaſes upon very low terms; and that part of the Nun's Moor, next to Hall's Gate, was then let at the very low rate of one ſhilling per acre, which had the deſired effect; the land having had great juſtice done to it, the tenant reaped an ample reward for his induſtry.

" In the year 1796, another hundred acres were let to Mr. Ralph Watſon of the Cuſtoms, and others, at different prices per acre, according to the value of the land, and its quality.

" The committee of ſtewards having employed the money obtained as damages of Mr. Coulſon to the improvement of the common in general, it is now in a better ſtate than ever it was known to be before; and it is but juſtice to ſay, that they have paid the

the ſtricteſt attention to the advancement thereof, and that their care has been amply recompenſed.

" Since the obtaining the above act of parliament, the ſtewards of the different companies have formed themſelves into a kind of aſſociated body, to watch over the Town-moor, and the rights of the burgeſſes at large; for which purpoſe they appoint an annual committee, who elect a chairman; which committee aſſemble the whole body of ſtewards occaſionally, under the penalty of a fine for non-attendance, &c. The different ſtewards take the ſenſe of their companies on any matter of public import, and report the ſame at the next appointed meeting of ſtewards, when the buſineſs is ſettled according to the opinion of the majority preſent, who are to vote agreeable to the direction of the company whom they repreſent. Certain it is, that this body of men, although unauthoriſed by either law or charter to act as a body, except in the particular inſtances pointed out by the act for the improvement of the common, have yet, by their prudent conduct and ſteady attention to the rights and intereſts of the burgeſſes in general, obtained the confidence of the companies and reſident freemen, who look upon them as a kind of third eſtate, or intermediate body between the magiſtracy, the common-council, and the community of burgeſſes at large; and they will continue to be reſpected ſo long as they make no attempt in public affairs, of the church or ſtate. One thing is obvious, that it certainly would render the ſeveral companies more truly reſpectable, were they to conſider how much it is their intereſt to elect the moſt prudent and diſcreet of their reſpective brotherhoods to repreſent them as ſtewards, not only at thoſe meetings which more

more immediately concern their own pecuniary welfare, but at ſuch alſo which may be of a more public nature."

The ſame able and well-informed burgeſs, lately deceaſed, goes on to obſerve :—

"The CASTLE-LEAZES continues to be appropriated to the purpoſes of depaſturing the milch-cows of reſident burgeſſes and reſident widows, and it is for that reaſon annually '*hained*,' or kept from paſturing thereupon, till the graſs becomes full of nouriſhment and juice,

"There is certainly a want of agricultural aſſiſtance to render this valuable large tract of ground as prolific as it might, and indeed ought, to be; and it is to be hoped the public attention will be ſhortly called thereto, particularly as the moor is now in ſuch an improved ſtate, that the Leazes may in a little time be diſpenſed with, and appropriated to ſuch a courſe of regular cultivation, as may tend to improve the paſturage to a high degree. The Nun's-Moor, as has been obſerved, was laid down from tillage for paſture, and is now in the moſt excellent condition.

"But the greateſt advantage which ever poſſibly could accrue to the burgeſſes of Newcaſtle, from the Town-Moor, or the Caſtle-Leazes, would ariſe from working that valuable ſeam of main-coal which lies under its ſurface, and which, the public ſays, is of the very beſt quality of that mineral. This right, the late act has clearly aſcertained to be veſted in the burgeſſes at large, and which, by their charter of the 31ſt of Edward III. is put beyond all diſpute.

"But ſuch is, and perhaps ever has been, the jealouſy reigning between the governing and the governed

verned party, that it can never be ſuppoſed to be brought about, but under the direction of an act of parliament, by which it might be ſettled that the nett profits ariſing from ſuch an undertaking were ſolely to be appropriated to the ſupport of old and decayed burgeſſes, their widows, children, or orphans, under the management of a committee, to be annually choſen from the ſeveral companies; of which committee the mayor, recorder, and ſheriff, for the time being, always to be three; to act totally independent of the body corporate, under certain determinate rules and regulations. It might perhaps be good policy to give the preference to ſuch applicants for the benefit to be beſtowed on indigence, who are themſelves, or whoſe huſbands or fathers were members of ſome of the incorporated companies. This meaſure would render the franchiſes of the companies more deſirable, and conſequently make the ſeveral brotherhoods more numerous and reſpectable.

"The prodigious advantage that would certainly reſult to the community at large, from ſuch a meaſure being adopted, is almoſt inconceivable. What foundations for alleviating and relieving the neceſſities and diſtreſſes of human nature might not be expected to ariſe from ſuch a regulation, when directed by a juſt and prudent adminiſtration! Happy the character, who may be ſo fortunate as to prove the means of bringing about ſuch an arrangement; which certainly might be effected without any depreciation of the revenues of the corporation, and would be an aſylum for indigence and diſtreſs, for a long, a very long courſe of years! But this deſirable event is not to be expected till the narrow policy of the go-

verning part, of indeed all corporate bodies, ſhall give place to ideas more liberal and humane. Then this, and many more generous appropriations of public revenues, which were ever intended, when granted, to be for public benefit,---then, and not till then, will be brought forward, and ſucceſsfully adopted."

Such are the obſervations of this late enlightened and patriotic burgeſs, left in fair autograph, interleaving a copy of Mr. Bourne's Hiſtory of Newcaſtle, and for which we ſtand ſo juſtly indebted to his memory. They are ſo lucid, ſo impreſſive on this remarkable part of the Hiſtory of Newcaſtle, that they have only to be read, in order to be felt.

In this town and its vicinity, the public mind, at the above period, was agitated in the extreme, and party ſpirit ran high among all claſſes, eſpecially between the abettors of the magiſtrates and thoſe of the freemen. Some of the former boldly aſſerted, that the deciſions of the court ſubſtantiated all the claims of the governing party, as they were declared lords of the ſoil, &c. while the more moderate and virtuous part of the corporation confeſſed that the deciſion met their warmeſt approbation, as thereby the indigent burgeſſes, widows, and orphans, had now a legal claim upon the production both of the ſurface and minerals of that vaſt tract of ground, left them as an inheritance by their forefathers, by which they would not only ceaſe to be a parochial burthen, but, by prudent adminiſtration, they might enjoy the ſweets, if not of an opulent, at leaſt of an eaſy independence, in the advanced or helpleſs period of their lives.

On

On the other hand, the exultation of the freemen was almoſt boundleſs on this important occaſion; and they gave full vent to their reſentment, in terms the moſt exaſperating and acrimonious. They declared openly, that they had been too long ſubjected to the "*inſolence of office*," and that now, by the powerful influence of an incomparable counſel, the clear diſcernment of an impartial jury, and the firmneſs of an upright and enlightened judge, they had eſcaped from the fangs of an unprincipled, avaricious junto, who meant to rob them and their helpleſs widows and orphans, firſt of the product of the ſurface, and then of the minerals in the bowels of their paternal inheritance. Theſe ſentiments were echoed, not only in every place of public concourſe, but were conveyed in pamphlets, ſarcaſtic lampoons, *Freemen's Catechiſms*, *Freemen's Magazines*, and ſuch other compoſitions, highly calculated to irritate and inflame the public mind; and although the impetuoſity of tumultuous commotion gradually ſubſided, yet the effects of it were long felt afterwards. One prominent character, Sir Walter Blackett, in this violent ſtruggle for power and domination on the one hand, and reſiſtance crowned with ſucceſs on the other, ſuffered ſeverely; and from the expreſſions of the moſt contumelious contempt which he daily experienced from the undiſcriminating multitude, his mind was, no doubt, agitated with the keeneſt and moſt agonizing ſenſations; which indeed were aſcribed by his friends as the means of ſhortening his uſeful life. All his unceaſing acts of beneficence, his courtly and winning deportment, his affability and condeſcenſion,---all were forgot! and it was ſuppoſed, that deſigning men, taking the advan-

tage of Sir Walter's popularity and love of power, by the long habit of his leading influence in the corporation, artfully placed that gentleman in the front of the conteſt, and ſo expoſed him to the whole preſſure of oppoſition and popular reſentment.

Another embittering circumſtance befel that once deſervedly popular character in the year 1774. Upon the diſſolution of the parliament, Mr. Ridley reſigning his ſeat, an oppoſition took place to Sir Walter Blackett, long one of the members for Newcaſtle, and Sir Matthew White Ridley, who had become a candidate to ſucceed his father. A number of the moſt ſpirited and active free burgeſſes invited the honourable Conſtantine John Phipps, a captain in the royal navy, and Thomas Delaval, Eſq. brother of Sir John (now Lord) Delaval, to ſtand candidates for the repreſentation of Newcaſtle in Parliament. Sir Walter once more took the field, and, accompanied by the young baronet, Sir Matthew, ſecured in their canvaſs a great majority of voters, who completely triumphed over their competitors. Yet this victory was not obtained by Sir Walter without being hourly expoſed to all the virulence of the moſt rancorous oppoſition, and terms of the moſt marked and inſufferable contempt. On this occaſion, and in the ferment of popular commotion, the affair of the *Town-moor* was not forgot. That veteran in electioneering buſineſs had the mortification to ſee many burgeſſes under the banners of the popular candidates whom he little expected, and ſome of whom he had ſerved in the moſt ſubſtantial manner. To conſummate his chagrin, he found it was the general wiſh that he ſhould decline the conteſt, and reſign the repreſentation into younger and more vigorous

gorous hands; and however attached the great body of the burgeſſes were to his intereſts, yet he perceived that a ſigh of regret eſcaped from their breaſts upon the event of their being deprived of the opportunity of having ſo able a repreſentative as captain Phipps joined with Sir Matthew White Ridley, the two gentlemen whom all parties ſecretly wiſhed in the repreſentation; nor could the burgeſſes of Newcaſtle have poſſibly made a better and more ſuitable choice. Both gentlemen young, popular, of graceful figures, and well connected. The former, captain Phipps, of high birth, and a ſplendid fortune, of the moſt conſummate profeſſional knowledge in maritime affairs, and who on all occaſions during his canvaſs, and upon the huſtings, declared his warmeſt attachment to the beſt intereſts of Newcaſtle, and *eſpecially to the improvement of the river Tyne, which he conſidered as being capable of becoming one of the fineſt rivers in the world, but which* IGNORANCE, INATTENTION, *and* AVARICE, *had converted into what he called* "A CURSED HORSE-POND!" That, ſhould he have the ſupreme felicity of being elected their repreſentative, he would exert all his influence with the admiralty, to whom he was perſonally known, to protect, cheriſh, and aggrandize the important and numerous branches of trade on the river Tyne.—Theſe profeſſions the candid and intelligent part of the burgeſſes were fully convinced he would realize, and therefore the loſs of having ſuch a repreſentative as captain Phipps excited in them the livelieſt ſenſations of painful regret.

The other gentleman, Sir Matthew White Ridley, was in the vigour and bloom of youth, formed under a father who knew all the forms of parliamentary buſineſs,

buſineſs, and who himſelf knew all the intereſts of the corporation, was deeply concerned in the moſt ſubſtantial branches of their trade; was of an independent ſpirit, and could expreſs his ſentiments with firmneſs and animation, which he has realized in his whole parliamentary conduct, while he daily riſes in the eſteem and affection of his conſtituents.

Such was the reſult of the ſolemn trial reſpecting the Town-moor, with ſome of the advantageous effects that have accrued, or may ſtill follow, in conſequence of *the clear and explicit act of parliament*, that has precluded the poſſibility of future diſputes on that important branch of the franchiſes of the Newcaſtle burgeſſes. We have intentionally been the more full upon this, as, from the rapid progreſs which agriculture is making, in every part of the kingdom, the ſame ſpirit may ſtimulate the committee empowered to let and cultivate this large piece of ground, and ſo raiſe its value threefold to what it has ever yet been. And while this numerous body ſee ſome of their privileges, which they accounted excluſive, daily frittering away, they may with confidence look to the fruits of *the improvement of the Town-moor*, as a ſubſtantial reſource to themſelves in advanced life, and to their widows and orphans, when they themſelves ſhall have ceaſed to act upon the ſtage of human affairs.

From curſorily taking a view of the ſtreets and private buildings; and having traced the outlines or boundaries of the lands and property of the freemen of Newcaſtle, of more extent and value than that poſſeſſed by any other ſingle town or corporation in the kingdom, London alone excepted; we ſhall now proceed to deſcribe the public buildings.

PUBLIC

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The CASTLE.

In this large emporium of trade, adorned with ſpacious ſtreets, and numerous elegant buildings, the eye of humanity is pained to behold, nearly in its centre, the remains of a once formidable fortreſs, now a loathſome gaol for the county priſoners; on its walls a large priſon, and in its precincts the gallows!—Whether *exemplary puniſhment* is neceſſary, or to be preferred to *exemplary reformation*, in this place we muſt not diſcuſs; but we would aſk merely, Whether the world can be better warned by a body in gibbets, or even the ſuſpenſion till death of a fellow-being, than by the active virtues of a once miſguided, but now enlightened underſtanding? The gibbet will remain an object of terror to the traveller, who dreads being robbed and murdered, but an incitement to deſpair in the mind of the murderer! Experience indeed proves the truth of the affirmative. In many of the priſons of America, (Philadelphia, &c.) where capital puniſhment is entirely done away, and thoſe confined *made to work*, or *no food given them*, a capital crime is rarely to be met with. In England, and ſome neighbouring countries, where puniſhment is ſo very frequently had recourſe to, crime increaſes in proportion to the increaſe of ſeverity. The end propoſed in puniſhment, we will only add, ought to be, the correction of the guilty, and ſhould include the means of amendment.

The

This once famous Caſtle ſtands on an eminence, and was built, not only with the deſign of repelling the invaſions of foreign foes, but of keeping the inhabitants of the town and country in a ſtate of terror and ſubjection. It ſtill ſeems to frown defiance, and throw a kind of horrific lour at the peaceable paſſenger walking along the ſtreets.

This fortreſs, in ancient times, commanded the principal entrance from the ſouth, and was encompaſſed with two walls, of great ſtrength and height. In the exterior wall were four gates; one large, with two portcullises: the ground within this outer wall meaſured three acres and one rood. But let us be a little more particular in deſcribing this ancient Caſtle, which gave a name to the town, and not the town to the Caſtle.

The date of its firſt founding, and of its being completed, is not agreed on by hiſtorians. But the moſt correct and authentic fix the period of the commencement of its being built in the year 1079, and finiſhed about three years after that date.

But ſcarcely any one has doubted, that this mighty work was undertaken under the auſpices of William the Norman, conqueror of England, and by the immediate direction of his eldeſt ſon, Robert, ſurnamed Curthoſe. It has already been ſlightly obſerved, when we treated of the origin of the name of Newcaſtle, that the occaſion of building this ſtrong place was, to keep his troops employed, and likewiſe to ſerve as an impregnable barrier againſt any future hoſtile viſit from their Caledonian neighbours. This laſt purpoſe it fully anſwered, as, during the revolution of hundreds of years, it ſeldom or ever was taken by an invading foe.

Its

Its name of "Newcaſtle" would ſeem to convey an idea, that it had been built on the ſite of ſome former place of ſtrength, from which, by contradiſtinction, it derived a name that extended afterward to the adjacent town, and which it retains to this day.

The Milbank MS. tells us, "that this Newcaſtle may be diſtinguiſhed from the old one, that is, the Round Tower, ſince called the Half-moon Battery; which is ſuppoſed to have been a Roman fortreſs, to command the paſs of the bridge over the river Tyne, built by the emperor Hadrian, and which gave its name to the Roman ſtation, that is, Pons Ælii."

But the ſtrength of this mighty fortreſs was put to the proof almoſt as ſoon as its works were completed. Rebellion is moſt frequently the effect of tyranny and oppreſſion; and the Norman family, the conqueror and his ſons, employed no methods to gain the affections of his vanquiſhed ſubjects; but, on the contrary, in order to break their ſpirits, and extinguiſh every ſpark of ſenſe of their priſtine greatneſs and independence, exerciſed the moſt brutal and oppreſſive tyranny. Whether this was the caſe with reſpect to earl Mowbray is what hiſtory does not inform us. But it is certain, that this powerful nobleman raiſed the ſtandard of rebellion againſt William Rufus, the ſon and ſucceſſor of William the Conqueror, made choice of this ſtrong Caſtle as a place of arms, and filled it with troops. Rufus, who knew its importance, loſt no time, but with a great army marched againſt the rebels, laid ſiege to Newcaſtle, and, in a few days, made himſelf maſter of the place. Mowbray had found means to eſcape, and got ſafe to Balmbrough caſtle. Hither the king inſtantly directed his march; but, after a tedious and

fruitleſs ſiege, he converted it into a blockade, leaving a powerful body of troops before the Caſtle, in a new fortreſs, which he termed (juſtly enough) Malvoiſin, "bad neighbour." Mowbray eſcaped a ſecond time, and, inſtead of returning to Newcaſtle, whither he had been invited by ſome of his faithful partizans, he thought a religious aſylum would be the moſt eligible, and took ſanctuary in the church of St. Oſwin, at Tynemouth. But, alas! the conqueror's family paid little reſpect to altars and ſhrines; for the furious ſoldiers of Rufus dragged the unfortunate Mowbray from the altar, and carried him to a fortreſs, in the ſouthern part of the kingdom; where, after ſuffering all the hardſhips of a rigorous captivity, he was ignominiouſly put to death.

This ſtrong fortreſs appeared of vaſt conſequence, not only to the family of William, but likewiſe to ſucceeding monarchs, for a long courſe of centuries.

King John, who had a great predilection for Newcaſtle, fixed his reſidence in it during a conſiderable part of his reign; nor was he inattentive to increaſe its ſtrength. For this purpoſe, A. D. 1213, that prince made a vaſt foſs or trench round the Caſtle, and alſo ſtrengthened it with ſome new and additional works towards the river Tyne.

In the year 1292, John Baliol, king of Scotland, did homage, for the crown of that kingdom, to Edward I. king of England, in the great hall of his palace, within the Caſtle of Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

It would be tedious and unentertaining, to give a detail of all the grants of monies, for repairing, ſtoring, and victualling this extenſive fortreſs; and for ſubſiſting a numerous body of troops, with which it was conſtantly garriſoned.

Sufficient

Sufficient is it to add, that the moſt powerful, and the richeſt baronies of the north, were aſſeſſed according to their valuation, in Doomſday Book, for the maintenance of the caſtle and garriſon. Among others was the baronies of Dilſtone, Walton, Bolam, Bothal, Delaval, Copun, &c. Beſides theſe extenſive baronies, including their reſpective dependencies, there were rents, houſes, cloſes, gardens, all the property of the Caſtle.

But, in proportion as artillery came to be employed in beſieging or defending places of ſtrength, this once almoſt impregnable place gradually loſt its former conſequence. It is remarkable that, from the year 1605 to 1610, this formerly auguſt Caſtle, often the temporary reſidence of kings, and for the defence of which the great barons, Heron, Delaval, Clavering, Bolbeck, Bertram of Bothal, Ros, Gaugy, Clifford, and Dilſtone, had each a houſe within its liberties,—had loſt ſo completely its priſtine grandeur, that it was let to the incorporated company of taylors, at the yearly rent of one pound!

To complete its downfal, the Caſtle, and circumjacent grounds, were granted, by king James I. to one Alexander Stephenſon, a Scotchman, who begged it of him. He was, ſays Mr. Bourne, (rather in uncourtly phraſe) *one of his cloſe ſtool.* And ſure enough, the good inhabitants of the Caſtle-garth ſeem to have taken a hint from this Scotchman's office; for, by the ſame author we are told, that, in the 18th year of this king's reign, an inquiſition was held about the Caſtle, wherein complaint was made of a dunghill within its bounds, containing an enormous maſs of excrementitious filth, being 98 yards in length, 10 in depth, and 32 in breadth! Its preſſure was ſo

great upon the wall, on the weſt ſide of the Caſtle, which was 40 yards in length, 10 yards in height, and 2 yards broad, that it threw down a large part of it.

To conſummate its ruin, its fine covering of lead was carried off; ſo that the poor priſoners lodged for trial in their doleful manſion within the Caſtle, were expoſed to all the ſeverities of the weather, and all the other miſeries of a moſt horrible dungeon!

Such was the old Caſtle, famous, for ages, as a place of ſtrength and magnificence. But the invention of artillery, theſe dreadful engines of deſtruction, the acceſſion of James VI. of Scotland to the crown of England, and the union of the two kingdoms under queen Anne, precluding all danger from the north, this once barrier-fortreſs loſt its uſefulneſs, and with this its conſequence, and ſo became neglected.

Before we quit the ſubject, it may not be unacceptable to our readers to preſent to their view a ſuccinct and accurate view of the Caſtle, in its preſent ſtate.

The great tower, termed by antiquaries, the Keep, meaſures twenty-eight yards and a quarter in height. The celebrated Mr. Pennant, in his Tour to Scotland, deſcribing its dimenſions, as taken by himſelf, ſays, The walls of Robert's Tower are thirteen feet thick, with galleries gained out of them; the height of this tower was eighty-two, and the ſquare on the outſide ſixty-two by fifty-four feet."

The main entrance, like the ſtructure of all ancient caſtles, is at a great height from the ground. No entrances, ſays Mr. King, in his ingenious Eſſay on ancient Caſtles, are to be found in the lower ſtory. or upon the ground, but always at a conſiderable height, to which we aſcend by a grand ſtaircaſe, about the middle

middle of which there generally was a ſtrong gate. In this old caſtle, two portals muſt be paſſed before we arrive at the main entrance: from the firſt of theſe, which is on the ſouth, and in a great wall, having, at a few yards diſtance, encloſed the whole tower, we mount, by eleven ſteps, to the ſecond one, which is of prodigious ſtrength, and from the top of it the beſieged appear to have had great power to annoy the aſſailants.

To the entrance from this ſecond portal are eighteen ſteps, part leading from ſouth to north, and part from eaſt to weſt. No grooves for portculliſes are to be ſeen in any of theſe portals; but they may have been effaced, either by the hands of violence or time.

In mentioning a portcullis, which we have frequently done in deſcribing the gates of the town walls, we ſhall, in a few words, give a deſcription of this eſſential part of defence in the gates of walled towns.

" The horſe, or portcullis, was a ſtrong grating of timber, fenced with iron, made to ſlide up and down in a groove of ſolid ſtone-work, within the arch of the portal, juſt as a ſaſh window moves in its frame; and its bottom was furniſhed with ſharp iron ſpikes, deſigned both to ſtrike into the ground, or floor, for the ſake of greater firmneſs and ſolidity, and alſo to deſtroy or break whatever ſhould be under it at the time of its fall; and its groove was always contrived ſo deep in the ſtone-work, that it could not be injured or removed without pulling down the whole wall.--- *See King on Caſtles, p.* 370.

The grand entrance, which is towards the eaſt, has had a moſt magnificent arch, adorned with Saxon or Semi-ſaxon ornaments.

Near

Near this entrance, and in front as you aſcend to it from ſouth to north, is a door-way leading into a little apartment, which on the inſide has been richly adorned: it ſtands over a crypt or vault, of conſiderable height, on two great arches, that interſect each other of beautiful Gothic maſonry. This had a diſtinct roof, and the whole forms a projection eaſtward, on the north-eaſt angle, againſt the eaſt end of which a modern houſe has been built. From the garret of this houſe there is at preſent an entrance into it, through an arched paſſage, where there muſt have been anciently a window. At preſent it is a currier's ſhop. From the richneſs of its interior ornaments, it probably had been the chapel of the Caſtle; and its direction from eaſt to weſt ſeems to ſupport the conjecture. Mr. Bourne, however, ſuppoſes the chapel to have been on the ground floor, within the walls of the Caſtle, in a place which at preſent compoſes a part of Mrs. Burns's very curious and extenſive cellars.

The grand entrance led immediately into the ſtate apartments, which had been lighted from the eaſt, by the moſt magnificent window in the whole building. Near this, and in the body of the wall, is an apartment with a curious draw-well in it. It is full ſixteen yards before we reach the water. The depth in all is thirty-one and a quarter. The water is hard, and exceedingly cold. It no doubt was made to ſupply the Caſtle in caſe of a ſiege. There are ſquare cavities in the wall on each ſide of the well, in which are round holes for pipes, uſed in former times to convey the water to the ſeveral apartments. It meaſures eleven yards to the ground from the window of the apartment that contains the well.

The

The only way to aſcend to the top of this ancient fortreſs, at preſent, is by one winding ſtair-caſe, about two yards wide, in the north-eaſt angle. There is another ſtair-caſe in the ſouth-eaſt angle, but it is now built up at the top. When we arrive, by many winding and uneaſy ſteps, at the top of the Caſtle, we are agreeably ſurpriſed to find a little artificial garden, planted with apple-trees, roſe-buſhes, &c.

In the whole height of the Caſtle there ſeems to have been five ſtories, from the ſquare apertures where the beams of the floors have reſted, of which the grand hall or ſaloon, and ſtate-rooms, were the loweſt.

In the centre, or thickneſs of the wall, there is a gallery of communication, on all the four ſides of it, about five yards and a half from the top. This paſſage is about two yards and a half high, and has three or four loop-holes on each ſide, all widening gradually inwards.

In the ſouth front, below this, is a gallery in the centre of the wall, about fifteen yards from the ground, in which there have been two large ornamented windows. Nearly on a level with which, in the north front, is another window of the like form.

The grand hall of the Caſtle has been lighted by two great windows; that in the ſouth front, near the ſouth-weſt angle, having had the pillar or diviſion of it broken away, has now the appearance of a door-way. A door ſcarcely half its ſize is hung in it. The other window is very obſervable; it is on the weſt ſide, near the ſouth-weſt angle.

The kitchen of this great tower has been in the north wall: it contains a much larger fire-place than any other of the apartments. The chimney appears on

on the outſide of the wall, by a ſquare projection, and terminates rather abruptly. Part of this once grand kitchen has been converted into a joiner's ſhop.

The north-weſt angle of the Caſtle is hexagonal, and projects in a manner different from any of the others.

All the apartments on the ground floor, and the county priſon itſelf, except at the time of the aſſizes, have been converted into cellars; a purpoſe for which their great coolneſs renders them very fit. There is a place here, into which if water be poured, in the largeſt quantities, it immediately diſappears: no doubt it communicates with ſome of the ſubterraneous drains.

In the center of the county priſon is a remarkable pillar, from which arches branch out very beautifully in all directions. It is hollow, and a pipe has conducted water down through it, from the well beforementioned. There is a very obſervable window in this place, with an arch turned in the inſide, to repel miſſile weapons. It is to be obſerved, that theſe windows were ſo conſtructed, that it was almoſt impoſſible for any weapon to be ſhot into the room, ſo as to do any harm; for, if it went at all aſcending, it would ſtrike againſt a low arch, purpoſely contrived over every window, and ſo could not, by any direction, enter, or do the leaſt injury.

To theſe obſervations on both the interior and exterior of this ancient and once commanding fortreſs, we ſhall ſubjoin a few remarks on the whole ſite of this formidable place.

We have already obſerved, that the Caſtle, or main tower, ſtrong in itſelf, was rendered ſtill more ſo, by the

the circumjacent fortifications. "There were two great ſtrong walls, (ſays Bourne) which ſurrounded the Caſtle. The interior wall was at no great diſtance from the Caſtle itſelf, as may, in ſeveral places, be ſtill ſeen. The exterior wall ſurrounds the verge of the Caſtle boundaries. From this outer wall were four gates; the great gate, and three poſterns. On the north ſide of the Caſtle is the main gate, now called the Black-gate. It has had two portcculliſes; one without the gate, which is ſtill to be ſeen; and another within, at a little diſtance from it, the ruins of which were to be ſeen a few years ago. On the eaſt ſide of the Caſtle is another gate, which leads down the Caſtle-ſtairs to the Cloſe. This was called the ſouth poſtern. There was an old building upon it, which was the county gaoler's houſe. On the weſt ſide was the poſtern facing Bailiff-gate. There is a houſe in the Caſtle-yard, where, they ſay, was the chapel of the garriſon, which is called the Chapel-houſe to this day. It is now converted into an inn, named the Three Bulls' Heads."

We ſhall juſt add, that the extenſive area, the Caſtle-yard, where formerly the greateſt barons of the north had their temporary reſidence, is now ſo crowded with ſhops, all along the ſite of the grand outer wall, that it is almoſt impoſſible to trace its former ſituation; the precincts of the Moothall excepted. But the whole north and eaſtern part is one continued range of ſhops, principally for old clothes, boots, ſhoes, &c. dug backwards out of the wall.---The boundaries of the Caſtle contain, at preſent, ſome hundreds of inhabitants, many of whom are active and induſtrious. A few years ago, this area was a principal place for trade, before it removed to

the new ſtreets. There are, however, ſtill ſome remains of the old wall viſible, particularly on the ſouth and weſt, from the lane called Sheep-head-alley, by the Bank-head, and the ancient ſouth poſtern, to the old Half-moon Battery; and likewiſe by the head of the ſteep alley, that is called Dog-leap, which was a poſtern from the north ſide of the Caſtle.

The old Round Tower, commonly called the Half-moon Battery, was, in the year 1785, built half round with houſes. The back wall of theſe circular buildings, which are let into tenements of ſingle rooms, are three ſtories in height; the acceſs to the two uppermoſt is by means of wooden ſtairs, communicating with two galleries, which ſurround the building. The whole has *a very ſtriking effect* on travellers coming from the ſouth, as ſeen from Gateshead and along the Bridge.

The view from the old Caſtle is very extenſive; not only the whole town is in proſpect, but the circumjacent country, for many miles diſtant; and, however now diſmantled, and ſpoiled of its priſtine greatneſs, the liberties and privileges of the Caſtle once extended northward to the river Tweed, and ſouthward to the river Tees.

The County Prison, which is on the lower floor of the old Caſtle, is ſtill a frightful ſight to humanity. The unhappy, and not unfrequently innocent, priſoners, brought from their homes, are immured in this hideous dungeon, to take their trials at the aſſizes. "Its great coolneſs makes it very fit"---for what?—"for being a beer cellar throughout the year, and a priſon for felons during the aſſizes," ſays the *reverend* hiſtorian, Mr. Brand!!

The

The "eternal fitneſs of things," was a favourite doctrine among the Illuminati, ſome years ago; even the *riſing hopes of the Scotch Jeruſalem*, (church of Scotland) by this wonderful maxim ſolved all the unintelligibles of their theology, and verboſe difficulties of their metaphyſics. We are not very certain, however, had this preacher of good-will towards men been ſo unfortunate, through malice, miſinformation, or falſe ſuſpicion, as to have been brought on a cart, thrown into this horrible dungeon, and chained to its dreary walls, if he would have perceived much of *beauty* in this *fitneſs* reſpecting *his* ſituation. It is not improbable but his reverence would perceive, to the full, as much *fitneſs* in a good *prebend's ſtall.*

No wonder that the philanthropiſt Howard, a few years ago, when viewing this dreadful abode, turned away with horror at the proſpect, wondering that the gentlemen of the county of Northumberland, ſo characteriſtically diſtinguiſhed for hoſpitality, humanity, and every ornamental virtue, ſhould allow ſuch a ſhade to be thrown on all theſe, by ſuffering ſuch a *legal nuiſance* to continue unremoved. The late high-ſheriffs for the county, the excellent Sir John Swinburne, and the amiable Sir Charles Monck, were certainly unacquainted with this annual outrage on juſtice and humanity; otherwiſe they would have immediately made an alteration in the county priſon.

It is an outrage on *juſtice*; as it is an everlaſting maxim in juriſprudence, that every perſon is to be accounted *innocent*, till he be found *legally* guilty; and that no ſpecies of puniſhment is to precede *conviction.* But here is an entire invertion of this equitable procedure.---A man is to be accounted *guilty* till he is legally proven to be *innocent*, which is frequently the

the caſe. His puniſhment, viz. being manacled, conveyed through the public ſtreets fixed on a cart, thrown into this den of filth, covered only with a little ſtraw, chained to the wall, and ſhewn, like a wild beaſt, to the gaping mob, by a rapacious gaoler, at twopence a-piece; his puniſhment, ſuppoſing him acquitted, is then only to ceaſe!

To the credit, however, of the preſent county gaoler, Mr. Blake, it is at leaſt juſtice to remark, that the unfeeling and ſordid practice of expoſing the unhappy priſoners to public view has been for ſome years diſcontinued.

Within, or rather adjoining the outer wall of the Caſtle, is

The MOOT-HALL.

This is a large and capacious ſtructure, and is probably coeval with the Caſtle itſelf. The name of *Moot* or *Moat*, is of Saxon derivation, and ſignifies an *eminence*, commonly in the open air. It was in ſuch conſpicuous places that the ancient Saxons held their *wittenagemots*, or courts of legiſlation; from which that glorious palladium of Britiſh freedom, trial by jury, took its origin. The original intention of the Moothall was, to aſſemble the lords and barons of the northern diſtricts upon any particular emergency, during the feudal times. The architecture in no reſpect claims the attention of the curious.

Here annually the Judges of aſſize ſit for deciding cauſes; thoſe for *niſi prius*, in an incloſed court in the north; and for felonies, &c. in another in the ſouth end of the hall. In a gallery above the court, looking towards the area, the grand juries are ſworn.

The

The entrance for the high-ſheriff's coach, conveying the judges to and from the Moothall, with their numerous attendants, is through the Black-gate; a moſt aukward, unſightly, and ſometimes dangerous paſſage.

NEWGATE GAOL.

The external parts of this large and ſtrong building we have occaſionally deſcribed, when mentioning the towers and gates of the town-wall. Newgate being built before Newcaſtle was made a county of itſelf, took cuſtody of its own priſoners, who, no doubt, before that period, were confined in the priſon of the Caſtle of the town, in common with other delinquents of the county of Northumberland. The additional wings, on each ſide of the ſouth front of this ſtructure, appear to have been erected about the beginning of the laſt century.

The walls are very thick and ſtrong, the apartments for debtors are light, and well aired. Sir Walter Blackett charged his ample eſtate with ſupplying this place of confinement with plenty of coals; a great alleviation no doubt, of the drearineſs of the ſituation, eſpecially in cold ſtormy weather. Mr Howard approved of its cleanlineſs, its good fires, its humane jailor, but ſtill reprobated its confined ſituation. No open area or walled field, for the recreation and health of the priſoners—every thing upon the old principle of making it *a place of puniſhment*, even *previous* to trial or conviction.

In the Manor-chair, or Manors, is a Houſe of Correction, where offenders are confined, generally for a ſhort period, at moſt till the ſitting of the quarter ſeſſions,

ſeſſions, when they are tried and receive ſentence. Here is lately built a Penitentiary, for ſolitary confinement, where the unhappy offender is ſecluded from every taſte of the ſweets of ſociety, unpitied, and alone!

But we willingly quit the contemplation of theſe doleful manſions, which ſerve only as powerful proofs of the want of knowledge and benevolence amongſt mankind, to conſider, with ſupreme ſatisfaction, fabricks devoted to induſtry, convenience, or devotion.

That which firſt claims our attention is the

EXCHANGE AND TOWN-COURT.

The firſt public building on the Sandhill was an ancient hoſpital called the *Maiſon de Dieu*, or Houſe of God. Roger Thornton, the munificent benefactor of Newcaſtle, was the founder of this building, ſo remote, as in the reign of King Henry IV. Upon the death of his wife, he carried his affection for the partner of his fortunes and ſharer of his domeſtic concerns, beyond the verge of mortality by inſtituting this religious foundation for a chaplain to pray for the ſoul of Agnes his late wife, for thoſe of his father and mother, both deceaſed, for his own while alive, and alſo when he too ſhould be numbered with "theſe honoured dead." This prieſt (ſays Mr. Bourne) was called the guardian or keeper of the ſaid hoſpital; being intruſted with the care of *nine poor men, and four poor women*, who reſided there. They were called brethren and ſiſters of *St. Katharine's Hoſpital*. St. Katharine being the tutelary ſaint of this religious foundation. It ſuffered the fate of all their religious inſtitutions, in the reign of Henry VIII.

VIII. And by royal grant it had been transferred to Sir Richard Lumley, who, anno 1629 conveyed to the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle, and their ſucceſſors, for ever, all that ſtone building covered with lead called the *Maiſon Dieu*, ſtanding near the Tyne, and to the eaſtern part of the Town's Chamber, being ſixteen yards in length, and anciently being part of the hoſpital of St. Katharine the virgin, in conſideration of one hundred pounds.

This building is now converted into cellars, &c. A part of it towards the Sandhill, was, ſome years ago, taken down and rebuilt. It conſiſts of a row of Piazzas, where the Salmon-market is held, having apartments over them for dwelling-houſes. Adjoining to this is the Merchant's Court, or Hall, which we will deſcribe when we give the hiſtory of that ancient and opulent body.

But what claims particular attention is, the Town-Court. We ſhall preſent our readers with Mr. Bourne's account of it in its ancient ſtate, and before it was beautified with the late alterations. This public ſtructure owes its origin to that generous patron of almoſt every laudable foundation in Newcaſtle, Roger Thornton. What that great and good man built for tranſacting public buſineſs, was pulled down, and the late one erected in its place, anno 1658. Alderman Weymoth, by will, dated April 11, 1658, gave 1200 pounds towards it, and the town was at the reſt of the charge, which amounted to above 10,000 pounds more.

The architect was Robert Trollop, and his charge for building the court was 9771 pounds. To complete which the town clerk was ordered to advance to him 900 pounds more.

To

To this, Mr. Trollop had 50 pounds in addition for erecting the King's arms in the court, and on the bridge, the ſame ſum for finiſhing them; and for making the conduit on the Sandhill.

This building (ſays Mr. Bourne, and indeed which he very accurately deſcribes) as to its form and model, is of great beauty. That part of it, which is the court itſelf, is a very ſtately hall, whoſe lofty cieling is adorned with various paintings, and its floor inlaid with chequered marble. On the eaſt ſide is a dial, and the entrance into the Merchants' Court. On the weſt are the benches where the magiſtrates hold their quarter ſeſſions, Court of Conſcience, and Courts of Guild, meetings of the burgeſſes, and other public buſineſs. And it is in this ſpacious court where his Majeſty's judges hold the annual aſſizes, for the town and county of Newcaſtle. The windows of this building are to the ſouth, and command a view of the bridge and river, crowded often with ſhips from all nations. One of theſe windows is in the form of a Catharine wheel, in which is a large ſun-dial of beautifully painted glaſs, over which the affecting exclamation of Horace, Eheu Fugaces! *Ah, how ſwiftly fly our years!*

Above the Court hang the portraits of Charles II. and of his royal brother and ſucceſſor, James II. at full length, and as large as life. By whom theſe portraits were drawn, is not recorded in the common council books. But they have, like their originals, been rather unfortunate. For, in the riot that happened at Newcaſtle in 1740, the drapery of theſe pictures, of the brother kings, was miſerably torn; the ſcattered fragments, however, were collected and remitted

remitted to London. Theſe pictures were done afreſh, and elegantly fitted up in their preſent frames, richly guilt and moulded, and placed in their former ſituation, till a ſecond diſaſter befel them by the great fire which happened in the adjacent warehouſes, in 1791, on the ſouth ſide of St, Thomas' Chapel, when the flames having caught the roof of the Guild-hall, and melting the lead on the roof, it fell on the paintings, one of the hands of that of Charles II. was burnt, and other injuries done. Theſe however were repaired by the late Mr. Bell, a native of Newcaſtle, who by vigour of genius became the moſt eminent portrait painter which this town ever produced. At the low end of the hall is a fine portrait painting of his preſent Majeſty George III. in his robes of ſtate, by Allan Ramſay, and preſented to the town in 1779 by Sir Matthew White Ridley.

On the north ſide of this hall is, ſays Mr. Bourne, a magnificent entrance into a paſſage which leads into a large room, called the Towns Chamber. Here it is that the mayor tranſacts the common buſineſs of the town. Here alſo the common council is held, where the mayor ſits on a bench diſtinguiſhed from the others, the aldermen on each ſide, the common council below upon chairs placed on each ſide of the room. Here, upon royal birth days, or of public rejoicings, it is that the mayor, magiſtrates, and burgeſſes aſſemble. In the weſt end of the Town's-chamber is a ſmall room, where the ancient records and archives of the town are kept.

The aſcent to the entrance of the hall, was by two ſtaircaſes, one from the eaſt and another from the weſt, without the building, and met at a platform fronting the main entry. In the front over the ſtructure,

was built a ſteeple, in which was the town clock, which was kept exactly regulated.

In the MS. life of Alderman Barnes, we have the following account A. D. 1658, "The Exchange was finiſhed, which is an handſome, neat ſtructure, well contrived for the conveniency of merchants, and for the courts of juſtice, in memory whereof, every alderman had his name caſt in one of the chimes ſet in the ſteeple of that edifice. That bell which had Alderman Barnes' name upon it, was afterwards removed, and put up in a new chapel erected without the walls, which was St. Ann's Chapel."

A very uncommon circumſtance in natural hiſtory happened, which we cannot refuſe ourſelves the pleaſure of relating.

In March 1783, a pair of crows who had been expelled by their invidious neighbours from captain Stevenſon's trees near the bridge end, on which they had, with others, regularly built their neſts, and not willing to quit the town, actually built and reared their young above the weather-cock of the ſteeple. It was ſecured on the very top of the iron ſpire, about which the weather cock moved, by a piece of ſtick thruſt through a ſmall aperture, upon this they laid a foundation ſo ſtrongly twiſted, that although expoſed to every blaſt, and moved round with the weather-cock in all points, it braved every ſtorm; and, for four years, they repeatedly built in the ſame critical ſituation. The novelty of this ſpectacle drew at firſt thouſands of ſpectators, ſome of whom imagined it portentous! However, the year before the ſteeple gave way, through age, they quitted the dangerous poſition.

The

The TOWN-COURT, or GUILD-HALL in the year 1794, underwent a complete alteration, chiefly in that part which looks towards the Sandhill. The whole of the front was entirely caſed a-new with ſtone, as were alſo the pillars in the Exchange. The remains of the old ſteeple and ſtair-caſe were entirely taken down; and the preſent front newly built. It has a good effect as we enter the Sandhill by the Cale-croſs. The clock is placed in the front of the building, and chimes at every quarter of an hour.

The ſtatue of Charles II. which ſtood in the front of the ſteeple, having been removed there from the Magazine-gate on the bridge, is now placed on the weſt corner of the front walk in the Exchange. The cieling has been newly painted, and the court on the whole has a reſpectable appearance.

THE BRIDGE.

We have in the preceding part of our undertaking, traced the origin of Newcaſtle to a remote antiquity; and as the river Tyne, which was probably larger then, than now, is impaſſible for foot or horſe, it is rational to ſuppoſe that a paſſage over the river was among the earlieſt of their efforts. That it was ſo, is an indiſputed fact recorded in the moſt authentic hiſtories of the town. It is aſſerted by antiquarians who have attentively traced the Roman military ways, that the original bridge, conſtituted a part of that road leading from Cheſter-le-ſtreet a-croſs the Tyne, and ſo into the moſt northerly parts of Scotland. We have already obſerved that the

the old bridge which had been moſtly conſtructed of wood, had the misfortune to be deſtroyed by fire 33d Henry III. It was rebuilt partly by ſubſcriptions from the inhabitants of Newcaſtle and Gateſhead; but the principal part of the money neceſſary for the undertaking, aroſe from indulgencies granted by Sewald archbiſhop of York, Walter biſhop of Durham, and Walter biſhop of Rocheſter. By indulgencies, we are not to ſuppoſe that the church of Rome was *then* ſo criminally preſumptuous as to pretend, for money, to give indulgence to *ſin*. They tell us it was only that the church of which the Pope was the head, had, from her plenary power, *and as having the keys of the kingdom of heaven*, authority to relax penances impoſed for real and ſuppoſed violations of her impious laws. This bridge had at firſt (ſays Wallis) twelve bold arches, afterwards only nine, the three on the Newcaſtle ſide were converted into cellars or ſtore-rooms; and as it conſtituted a part of the fortifications of Newcaſtle, it was ſtrongly ſecured by towers, gates, &c. All of which were deſtroyed either by the great inundation in 1771, or in conſequence of it.

Upon this cataſtrophe happening, the magiſtrates immediately ſet about taking proper ſteps for having the paſſage open by a new bridge. But as the communication by the fall of the old was entirely cut off, a temporary new one was abſolutely neceſſary. And to conduct matters with the greateſt regularity and diſpatch, a committee of gentlemen was choſen for theſe purpoſes, entruſted with full powers, named the Bridge Committee. A temporary one

one ſtrongly conſtructed, was built by Mr John Stephenſon, carpenter, which gave very general ſatisfaction. Thus far we proceeded (page 66) in our account of this uſeful public building.

Early in 1774, the Bridge Committee advertiſed for maſons to undertake the rebuilding of ſuch part of a new intended ſtone bridge over the river Tyne, as belonged to the town of Newcaſtle; having, from a quarry at Elſwick, provided a great quantity of large blocks of ſtone for that purpoſe, which were then lying on Felling and Elſwick quays.

A work of ſuch conſequence, thus publicly advertiſed, drew the attention of ſome of the firſt architects and engineers in the kingdom; and Meſſrs Smeaton, Wooler, and Mylne, gave in their reſpective reports. Theſe gentlemen were all men of the firſt abilities, and well known; the laſt had his architectural education at the moſt eminent academy in Rome, and although a youth, was choſen by the magiſtrates of London, to build that light and magnificent ſtructure, Blackfriars Bridge.

The biſhop of Durham obtained likewiſe an act of Parliament "to enable him and his ſucceſſors to raiſe a competent ſum of money, to be applied to repairing, rebuilding, and improving ſuch part of Tyne-bridge as belongs to the ſee of Durham. This to be done by raiſing 12,000l. to be ſecured by granting annuities upon lives, not exceeding ten per cent."

But it happened, as is reported, that in framing the outlines of the act to be procured, the magiſtrates had ſecretly inſtructed their members to enforce an alteration, which they intended, reſpecting the ſite of the

the propoſed new bridge. As this was a matter of public notoriety at that time, we ſhall give the account of it as left by the deceaſed gentleman, for whoſe informing notes we owe ſuch obligations.

" The bridge over Tyne at Newcaſtle, being a party concern, between the corporation of Newcaſtle and the biſhop of Durham, was likely to be the ſubject of much altercation. It being rumoured abroad that the corporation of Newcaſtle had an intention of having the ſite of the intended new bridge removed from that on which the old one ſtood, running the north end from the Javel-Group, to about the middle of Pipewellgate, in Gateſhead. This projected plan would have been not only very inconvenient for all the inhabitants of the moſt populous parts of Newcaſtle, but, on the ſouth ſide, it would carry the end of the bridge to the bottom of a vaſt hill, and from thence, by a ſteep aſcent, the paſſage would be carried weſtward, quite without Gateſhead altogether."

What gave weight to this ſuſpicion was, that, upon a deputation being ſent to enquire if this alteration was intended, the corporation refuſed to give any information on that head. As this project would, if carried into effect, materially injure the property of many individuals, on both ſides of the river, a general meeting was called, on Sunday afternoon, the 31ſt of January, 1772, at the Three Kings tavern, Quayſide, to conſider what ſteps were to be taken on ſo intereſting an occaſion. The reſult of the meeting was an unanimous reſolution to uſe every effort to oppoſe the intended bill being ſmuggled into Parliament. Dr. Hall had been choſen to the chair, and preſided in this important diſcuſſion; and fifty pounds

pounds were immediately ſubſcribed, to anſwer contingencies.

On the intention of this meeting being made public, and the reſolutions they had formed of oppoſing a meaſure, ſo arbitrary in itſelf, ſo injurious to many, and ſo inconvenient to all; they were not only joined by the people of Gateſhead in general, but alſo by many gentlemen of the counties of Durham and Northumberland. This oppoſition ſoon became ſo very formidable, as to induce the corporation to abandon their favourite plan, and to call a general meeting of the inhabitants of Newcaſtle, Gateſhead, and vicinity. A vaſt number of reſpectable perſons met accordingly, in Mr. Parker's long-room, Turk's-head inn, Newcaſtle; when William Lowes, Eſq. of Ridley-hall, was unanimouſly called to the chair. At this meeting it was agreed upon, without one diſſenting voice, "That the beſt and moſt equitable ſituation for a new bridge was the ſite of the former one; and that any material deviation therefrom would be highly injurious to the property of numbers of individuals." The biſhop of Durham adopting theſe reſolutions, the corporation coincided alſo with them, and joined with the biſhop and inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood in a general application to Parliament.

We have given an account of this tranſaction, as we find it accurately written down in the notes of a gentleman well informed on the ſubject; who, if our recollection does not miſlead us, officiated as clerk at this very general meeting. We record it in the Hiſtory of Newcaſtle, as it was viewed, at that time, conſequential, in the higheſt degree, to the liberties and property of very many concerned, and a daring infringe-

infringement on the rights of the burgeſſes, that they were not conſulted on matters that ſo deeply intereſted them and their poſterity. The public ſpirit then ran high, and was not to be intimidated by the "inſolence of office;" nor were they to obſerve, with a paſſive ſilence, their deareſt rights and moſt valuable intereſts ſacrificed, by any deſcription of men whatever. We have recorded it, becauſe Mr. Brand is either too courtly or too ill-informed, reſpecting theſe important tranſactions, to take any further notice of them, than in a ſlight manner, inſerted in a *ſmall note* of his hiſtory, vol. i. p. 52.

To proceed. An act of Parliament, for a matter of ſuch general concern, was eaſily obtained; but with the expreſs injunction, to erect no houſes, ſhops, or buildings of any kind, on the new bridge; nor were the commiſſioners to take tollage from foot people, on the temporary one, but for a limited time.

In conſequence of which, the foundation-ſtone of the biſhop of Durham's part of Tyne-bridge was laid on Friday, October 14, 1774. And on the 8th July, 1775, his firſt arch was cloſed in.

Tueſday evening, April 25, 1775, the firſt ſtone on the Newcaſtle ſide was laid by Sir Matthew White Ridley, bart. mayor, amidſt a great concourſe of people, who ardently wiſhed proſperity and permanency to the undertaking.

July 8th, 1776, a medal was depoſited in the firſt new pier, and the boundary of that part of the bridge that belongs to the corporation ſouthward, by the mayor and ſheriff of this town. Over the device which exhibited the Newcaſtle Exchange, with the genius of commerce ſitting by it, ſupporting the arms of the corporation, and preſenting a purſe to a figure in

in the robes of magiſtracy, directing his attention to a proſpect of ſome riſing piers, with ſhipping and lighters on the river, is the following motto: "*Q. F. F. Q. S. Quod felix fauſtumque ſit.*"---May it be happy and propitious! On the reverſe is this inſcription, "This ſtone, being the boundary of the corporation of Newcaſtle ſouthward, was laid Anno Domini 1776, in the mayoralty of Charles Atkinſon, Eſq. William Cramlington, Eſq. ſheriff. This medal was of copper, about four inches diameter; and, being incloſed in a thick glaſs caſe, was placed in the ſouth-eaſt corner of the north pier.

March 22, 1769, there was an order of common-council, for a thouſand pounds to be expended in purchaſing the property that was on the weſt ſide of the north avenue; on condition, that the act of Parliament, for which that body were then petitioning, could be obtained. This act paſſed accordingly.---By it, no houſes, except toll-ſhops, were to be erected on the new bridge; and the tolls were to be raiſed upon it for twelve years, and no longer, from June 24, 1779.

September 13, 1779, the ſixth and laſt arch of the Newcaſtle part of the new ſtone bridge, was cloſed.

Thus have we attempted a detailed and accurate account of the meaſures purſued by the corporation, to accompliſh this undertaking. Removing the prodigious maſſes of the old bridge, either with levers, iron wedges, or blaſting them with gunpowder; then driving piles, ſhod with iron, deep into the bed of the river; theſe having their tops ſtrongly bound with iron, to form foundations for the piers, coſt great labour and expence.

It appears, as ſtated by the common-council, in petitioning for an extenſion of the act for taking tolls, &c. that the corporation had expended, of their own money, December 29, 1778, the ſum of 21,042l. 10s. 11d. including 1838l. 9s. 8d. the price of property on the old bridge; and that it was ſuppoſed, before it was finiſhed, it would coſt them 10,000l. more.--- It alſo appears, that they had expended above the ſum of 2400l. as the charge in building the temporary bridge; being a balance of 321l. 18s. 9d. above the money produced by the tolls on the latter. It was, upon the whole, ſuppoſed, that the expence of this new bridge was not leſs than 30,000l.

This fabric, though not beautiful, is exceedingly ſtrong. It conſiſts of nine arches; and is in length, from north to ſouth, 300 feet and a few inches; its breadth is 18 feet, including 3 feet on each ſide for a foot-way.

The piers which ſupport the ſix arches on the Newcaſtle ſide of the bridge, are ruſticated, which have a fine effect: thoſe on the biſhop's ſide are plain, which cauſe a diſſimilarity in the whole ſtructure; and ſuggeſts the idea, to a ſtranger, that either there was a want of harmony in the plan, or in the execution. The parapet wall is about four feet from the level of the foot-path, on each ſide of the bridge.

This fabric *might* have anſwered the purpoſe of being the paſſage for foot, horſes, or poſſibly, a ſingle carriage, occaſionally, over ſome ſequeſtered part of the river; but when it was to be a communication, crowded with paſſengers, horſemen, heavy waggons, unceaſing driving of carriages, and multitudes of people, the inconvenience attending the narrowneſs

of

of the main ſtreet of the bridge, with great difficulty ſuffering two waggons, or larger carriages, to paſs each other, when they happen to meet, which is almoſt inceſſantly; while the foot-path ſcarcely ſuffers two people to paſs along together, or to paſs each other, was univerſally complained of and ſeverely felt.

It is ſaid, that the corporation intended, by the advice of the architects, that, as they were building a bridge, to laſt probably for ages, to make the whole as wide as that part on entering it by the north end; but they were thwarted in their laudable intentions by the biſhop, who would on no account be prevailed upon to extend his part to the ſame width; and thus the beauty and uſefulneſs of the whole were in a great meaſure loſt.

Be that as it may, the preſent magiſtracy, much to their honour, have ſet ſeriouſly about remedying this great inconvenience. For this purpoſe, they have contracted with Mr. D. Stephenſon, architect, to widen the bridge five feet on each ſide. This work is now (September 24, 1801) going on, and, it is hoped, will be completed in the courſe of next year. That gentleman propoſes, we underſtand, to alter the ſtructure of the parapet wall, and erect balluſtrades, or ſome other piece of architecture, ſuitable to the building.

The MANSION-HOUSE.

Before we enter upon the deſcription of this reſidence of the chief magiſtrate, we hope our readers will permit us to lay before them a few remarks, communicated by an ingenious and well-informed

correſpondent, on the CLOSE, where the Manſion-houſe ſtands.

" This ſtreet has been conſiderably widened, from the Manſion-houſe to the Javel-Group, by taking off ſeveral feet from the front of the houſes on the ſouth ſide, and adding it to the ſtreet, which has rendered that part adjoining to the Manſion-houſe rather more commodious. It is ſaid to be in contemplation to extend this improvement weſtward from the Manſion-houſe to Skinner-bourn. It would, of conſequence, be found neceſſary to carry the ſame alteration eaſtward to the Bridge-end. Nay, it is the wiſh and ſanguine expectation of many trading inhabitants, to ſee the Quay carried all along upwards to Skinner-bourn, above the bridge; and from Sandgate, where it now terminates, eaſtward, to St. Peter's (properly Sir Peter's) Quay. This would form a good ſtreet, of at leaſt a mile and a half in length, where commodious warehouſes and ſhops might be erected. Vaſt and chimerical as theſe improvements may ſeem to be at preſent, yet, ſhould the happy period of a peace return, and the intended canal, ſo long delayed, be ſet about in earneſt, we ſhould not at all be aſtoniſhed, *under an enterpriſing and public-ſpirited magiſtracy*, to ſee them all, in a very few years, realized. No town in the empire is more capable of improvement than Newcaſtle, and no corporation has it more in their power, or, we hope, inclination, to effect it."

Mr Bourne tells us, that many of the houſes, now converted into glazier's ſhops, cooper's work-ſhops, ſoap manufactories, &c. were once the abodes of the great and wealthy of Newcaſtle. Here dwelt Sir John

John Morley, one of the moſt eminent characters that ever directed the affairs of this town; and that when the widening of the ſtreet already mentioned, took place, much curious old pannelling and carved work was taken down; and, in one room, oppoſite to the long ſtairs, were places for the mace, ſword of ſtate, and cap of maintenance to be fixed in, which proves the houſe to have been the reſidence of a mayor, many years, likely, before the manſion-houſe had exiſtence.

The ſtate-houſe of the corporation (ſays Mr. Wallis) is on the edge of the river Tyne, in the narrow ſtreet called the Cloſe. It is a modern building, very handſome, with an area or court before it, entered by a flight of ſteps; within, not only convenient, but elegant, correſponding with the grandeur and hoſpitality kept up in this ſtately manſion. Its ſituation and appearance are not comparable indeed to the palace of the late Sir Walter Blackett, and which, it is reported to have been the intention of the corporation to purchaſe, and convert into the town or manſion-houſe; but when we conſider that the office of mayor in this place of trade, is not merely nominal like many inland towns, but that it obliges the chief magiſtrate to a conſtant reſidence, being almoſt inceſſantly engaged in buſineſs, a central, and convenient ſituation near the Exchange, Town-court, Cuſtom-houſe, Quay, &c. is abſolutely neceſſary. "I will neither hear, nor redreſs you," was the haughty reply of Philip, father of Alexander the Great, to a poor woman making application for that purpoſe to him---"You wont hear me!" replied the ſpirited

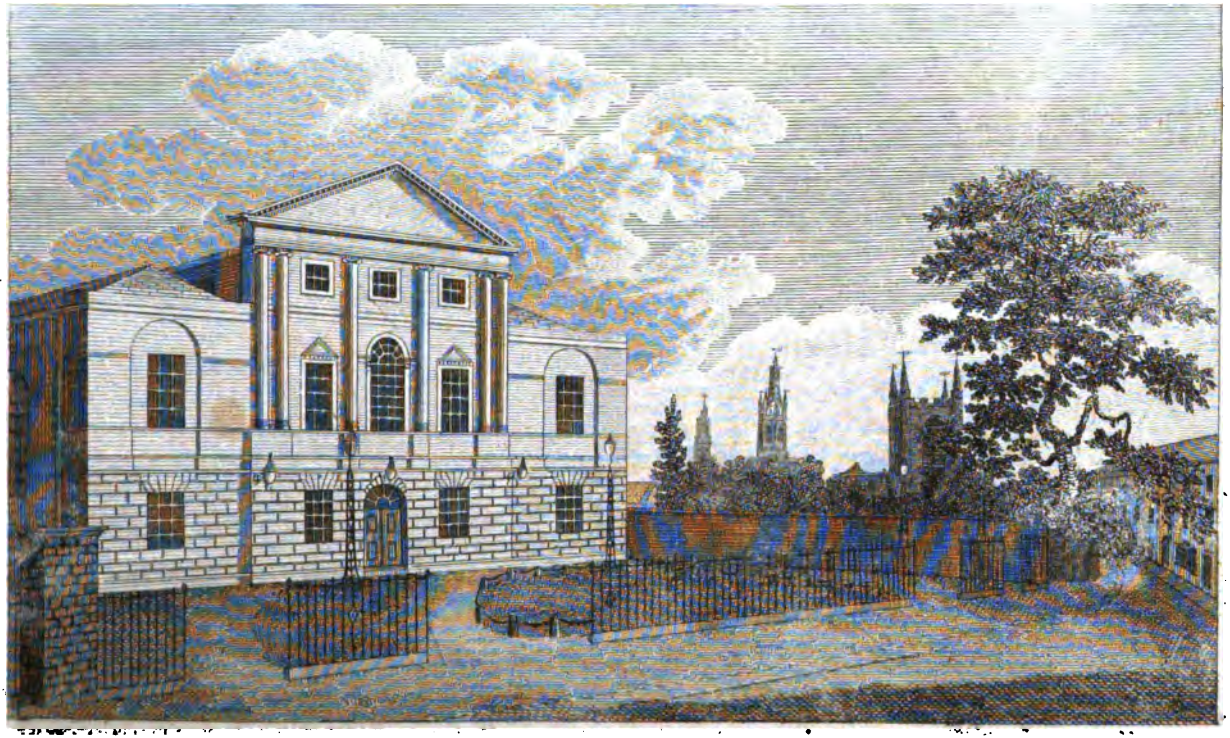
ſpirited petitioner, " No, I wont," ſaid Philip. Then μη Βασιλευητε. *King it no more*, added ſhe. The reproof had the deſired effect, for he inſtantly examined the caſe with patience, and redreſſed her wrongs. In the Manſion-houſe, ſuch a ſtern reply is ſeldom heard, to the meaneſt petitioner. Indeed, as the magiſtrates of this town are almoſt all men of buſineſs, and as all claſſes of the inhabitants are deeply concerned in trade in its numerous ramifications, they conſider (and juſtly too) that the intereſts of the governors and the governed are inſeparably connected.

We have rather anticipated in a former part of our work, ſome obſervations on the furniture, regalia, old armour, rooms of ſtate, and of convenience in the Manſion-houſe. We ſhall not therefore repeat any further details of theſe articles of leſs concern.

We have juſt only to add, that for the ſake of ſome improvements in the front of the Manſion-houſe, ſome years ago, the corporation purchaſed the building eaſtward of it, where they erected what is now called the new room, which is very ſpacious, where public entertainments at the aſſizes, quarter ſeſſions, guilds, &c. are given by the mayor.

CUSTOM-HOUSE.

The houſe which many years ago was appropriated to receiving the cuſtoms, was at the head of the quay. It appears to have been of great antiquity, and probably built almoſt as early as the embanking of the river. But in proportion as commerce rapidly increaſed, it was found inconvenient. The corporation therefore, having procured a central ſituation on the middle



THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

Opened June 21. 1776.

middle of the quay, the workmen begun on the 20th of May 1765, to clear the ground for building a new Cuſtom-houſe. This was accordingly finiſhed. It has a handſome front towards the river, is four ſtories high, and contains a great many ſeparate and convenient apartments, for tranſacting the extenſive buſineſs daily done.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

Trade has long been the principal purſuit of the people of this town. By the tenor of the indentures of the youth, (as we will afterwards ſee) by their preſcribed dreſs, victuals, and above all, the powerful influence of example, in which they had conſtantly ſet before their eyes, the frugality, induſtry, charity, and ſimplicity of the manners of their virtuous parents, the richneſs of attire, the ſoft and delicious luxuries of life, and chiefly the more elegant refinements were confined to the higher ranks of ſociety; and therefore balls, aſſemblies, maſquerades, routs, &c. were kept from the eyes and ears of the youth of this town with a wary and jealous attention. So that for many years the room appropriated to dancing, aſſemblies, &c. was in the Groat-market, (for which ſee page 120) and is far from being either very extenſive, or ſeemingly adapted for a concourſe of poliſhed and opulent people. It has, indeed, been converted of late, as we will ſee, to a purpoſe truly uſeful. But in proportion as civilization, learning, and foreign intercourſe, diffuſed their influence, a taſte for the polite amuſements of the drama, the dance, the poliſh of refined manners, rapidly took place in Newcaſtle.

It

It was therefore a general ſentiment to have places deſtined to theſe elegant amuſements. The Aſſembly Rooms were for thoſe purpoſes agreed to be built by ſubſcription. The ſituation fixed on by the committee, was on part of the garden belonging to the vicarage of this town, near the head of Weſtgate-ſtreet. For this purpoſe an act of parliament was obtained 14 George III. to enable Doctor Fawcett, then vicar, to grant a leaſe of ſome part of the ground belonging to this vicarage for 999 years, reſerving to himſelf and ſucceſſors, an annual ground-rent of twenty pounds.

A. D. 1773, the ſubſcription for building the new Aſſembly Rooms was opened, when the corporation of this town ſubſcribed 200 pounds, and numbers, both in the town and neighbouring counties, came forward with their ſupport. The building was finiſhed and coſt in all 6701 pounds. *

This monument of the taſte and liberality of the people of this town was built under the direction of the late Mr. William Newton of Charlotte-ſquare, architect, and ſurpaſſes every other public building in

* Monday May 16, 1774, at noon, the foundation ſtone was laid by William Lowes, Eſq. in the preſence of a great company of ladies and gentlemen. A plate with the following inſcription was put under the ſtone.

In an age
When the polite arts
By general encouragement and emulation,
Have advanced to a ſtate of perfection
Unknown in any former period;
The firſt ſtone of this edifice,
Dedicated to the moſt elegant recreation,
Was laid by William Lowes, Eſq.
On the 16th of May 1774.

in Newcaſtle for elegance of deſign and execution of workmanſhip. It preſents a front adorned with a colonade of ſix beautiful pillars, and two handſome wings. A fine graſs plot, with a circular gravel road for carriages in the front. This again is encloſed with painted iron paliſades, with lamps. The great room is decorated with ſeveral ſplendid chryſtal luſtres, manufactured at the glaſs-houſes here, which coſt, as is ſaid, ſome hundred pounds each, and give the room, when illuminated, an elegant appearance. Beſides the grand ſaloon, there are a coffee-room, a card-room, and a well choſen but ſmall collection of books. Moſt of the public daily prints are taken in at the firſt of theſe rooms for the uſe of ſubſcribers. Such is a ſhort deſcription of the Newcaſtle Aſſembly-rooms, and of which our readers have a correct and elegantly executed engraving, in the 3d Number of this work.

THEATRE-ROYAL.

The advocates for the drama aſſert, that this ſpecies of entertainment is the moſt refined and elevated of all others; and while it charms and delights, it at the ſame time refines and improves, the human heart. There are others, however, endowed with an equal portion of underſtanding, who do not heſitate to affirm, that an *exceſſive* attachment to theatrical exhibitions has been the ruin of empires, the ſubverſion of morals, and the bane of induſtry, as well as of domeſtic ſociety. From the many ſevere laws and reſtrictions, enacted by our virtuous and prudent forefathers, againſt ſtage-plays, interludes, &c. we can eaſily judge in what light they viewed theatrical

exhibitions; though we alſo well know the kind of plays they condemn; it is an affecting truth that the venal pens of Dryden, Congreve, &c. contributed, though in a very ſmall degree, to poiſon the looſe, laughing, licentious age of Charles II. by their dramatical compoſitions. In the more virtuous reign of queen Anne, immortalized by the productions of the greateſt heroes, poets, and philoſophers that ever adorned the Britiſh annals, the entertainment of the drama aſſumed a more rational, chaſte, and dignified form. Addiſon, Pope, Steel, and others, united their efforts to expel the luſcious but baneful dramatical entertainments, formerly exhibited, and to replace them by others more worthy the rational mind; and they happily ſucceeded. The preſent reign has been diſtinguiſhed for the chaſtity of theatrical productions; nor do any of an immoral or licentious tendency, receive the royal countenance or approbation.

The theatre of Newcaſtle for many years, was in the Bigg-market, behind the Turk's Head Inn. But upon the late improvements made in the ſtreets, &c. a new theatre was judged to be neceſſary, both to anſwer the purpoſe of convenience, and to heighten the embelliſhments of the town. For this purpoſe, propoſals and a plan were given in by Mr. David Stephenſon, architect, in conſequence of which he was employed to build the new theatre in the middle of Moſley-ſtreet. It is an elegant and commodious ſituation, and if not the moſt capacious, it is poſſibly as convenient for a moderate audience, as any theatre in the north of England. Yet it is a remark of the late ingenious and well informed burgeſs we ſo often quote, that it is rather unluckily placed too far eaſtward, and will cauſe a bend in the intended

intended new ſtreet to be carried due north towards the High-bridge, &c. Its front is adorned with feſtoons and dramatical emblems, beautifully formed. An act of parliament was obtained for authority to repreſent dramatical productions upon this ſtage, and to transform the actors, who by law are unluckily claſſed with *rogues, vagabonds, and ſturdy beggars*, into his MAJESTY'S SERVANTS of the THEATRE ROYAL, of Newcaſtle upon Tyne. So omnipotent is an act of Parliament! Yet there are ſome growling male-contents, (but there is not a poſſibility in pleaſing every one) who whimper ſomething about *an income-tax*, that his majeſty has other *ſturdy begging* ſervants, beſides the poor players, who oddly enough amuſe people by "fuming and fretting their part" and then are gone.

For ſeveral ſeaſons paſt the theatre here has been well attended; and the powers of Kemble, Cooke, &c. have drawn overflowing houſes. Acroſs the ſtreet eaſtward is the

POST-OFFICE.

It was long in the Bigg-market, afterwards removed to the Side. But that ſtreet being ſo exceedingly incommodious, in every reſpect, and the new ones of Moſley and Dean-ſtreets being central and ſpacious, and particularly convenient for the mail coaches, which occupy a deal of room, the magiſtrates transferred the poſt-office to Moſley-ſtreet. It is a building perfectly calculated for the purpoſe, is full of conveniences for the poſt-maſter, &c. as alſo for the trading people in receiving and delivering letters, unjoſtled by paſſengers, which formerly was frequently the caſe.

CALE-CROSS.

On the north ſide of Lork-Burn, near the Sandhill, ſtood the Cale-croſs, which Grey in his chorographia, deſcribes as a "fair one, with columns of hewn ſtone covered with lead." Not many years ago, there was a ciſtern at the top of it, to hold what was then called the new water. It was taken down in the year 1723. This ancient Croſs was rebuilt A. D. 1713, after a deſign by Mr. David Stephenſon, architect. It is ſupported by columns beautifully adorned, as well as the top with various emblematical aſſemblages of the town's arms, horns of plenty, &c. On the ſouth-weſt corner, on the top, is a lion couchant, which finely ſets out the ſtructure, and was a preſent from Sir Matthew White Ridley. The inſcription as follows: "Sir Matthew White Ridley, bart. mayor, Richard Bell, Eſq. ſheriff."

It got the name of Cale-croſs, ſays Bourne, from the *kail* or broth which was ſold here in former times. This, adds he, "ſeems to have been its original name, for I met with it by this name in the reign of king Richard II. and alſo in a writing, dated in the time of king Edward III.

In a confirmation of the Wall-Knowl hoſpital, A. D. 1360, it is called "Cale-croſs."

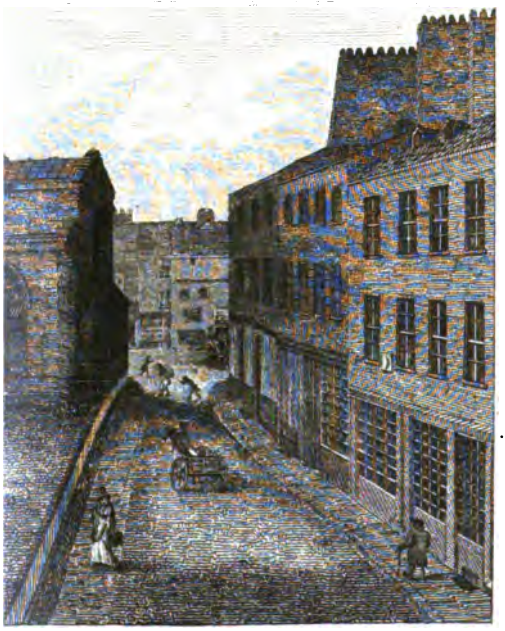
Here, eſpecially on market days, are ſold eggs, milk, butter, cheeſe, &c. And at this Croſs the two great fairs are proclaimed.

Without Nun-gate, half way to New-gate, ſtands the

WHITE-CROSS.

This too is of great antiquity, as there are accounts of it ſo diſtant as A. D. 1410. 11th of Henry IV.

Mr.



RCH.

Mr. Bourne ſays, "On the place where the Croſs formerly ſtood, was a ciſtern for receiving the water, which was called the New-water. This too, he adds, was pulled down, and there is now, on the place where the Croſs then ſtood, a pillar of ſtone-work."

In the year 1773, a Milk-market was eſtabliſhed at the White-croſs. In the year 1783 it was pulled down, and rebuilt after a deſign by Mr. David Stephenſon, architect, in the mayoralty of the late worthy alderman Atkinſon, whoſe name it bears inſcribed. It is a neat but low fabric, with a good clock, in a little pretty ſpire, which is of great ſervice to that part of the town.

The fairs are alſo proclaimed at this Croſs.

We have given a general account of the ancient places of ſtrength, of reſtraint for the unruly, and of amuſement for the gay and lively part of the inhabitants of the town and its vicinity. We now turn our attention to the deſcription of the numerous places of worſhip, for which it has been celebrated, during the revolution of many centuries.

We ſhall begin with an account of

ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH.

The propriety of ſtructures dedicated to the purpoſes of devotion has been denied and ridiculed by a certain claſs, many of whom are otherwiſe men of ſcience and intelligence. Yet we preſume to obſerve, and it may do no violence to metaphyſical inveſtigation to aſſert, that religion is natural to man; and that you may as well divert him of his exiſtence, as attempt to efface this indelible impreſſion ſtamped on his mind. It is interwoven in the conſtitution of the enlight-

enlightened ſage, and of the uncultivated barbarian. It pervades human nature in every age and clime; though the external expreſſions of it may be found widely different, according to the education of the mind. Man certainly ſtands high in the ſcale of being. His ſublime aſpect, his ardent aſpiration after ſuperior degrees of mental improvement, and conſequently enjoyment, demonſtrate him to have been formed the nobleſt and moſt perfect of all the works of the Deity, in the ſyſtem with which we are acquainted. So true is the obſervation of the old chronicler, of the debaucheries of his gods:

Pronaque cum ſpectent animalia cætera terram;
Os homini ſublime dedit, cælumque tueri
Juſſit, et erectos ad ſidera tollere vultus. OVID.

And whilſt they (the gods) beheld other animals groveling upon the earth, to man was given an erect countenance; he was ordered to look up towards heaven, to lift his face towards the ſtars.

The wide univerſe is one vaſt volume, ſpread out for his inſtruction, and a motive for his devotion.

Yet, to mortify his pride, he cannot fail to obſerve, that, in ſeveral reſpects, he is ſurpaſſed by the brute.—In his long imbecility, in infancy; his neceſſity, through cuſtom, for dreſs; the neceſſity of his food being transformed, by the action of fire, &c. In all theſe circumſtances, his inferiority to the brute is inconteſtible. But the principle termed inſtinct in the brute, and which regulates its whole routine of actions, becomes reaſon in man; and the powers of his mind, ſo vaſt, ſo boundleſs, ſet him at once, at the head of creation, and demonſtrate him formed for the moſt ſublime contemplation, and the pureſt intellectual pleaſures.

Indeed,

Indeed, no one can conſider the grand ſtructure of the heavens without having his mind filled with the moſt ſupreme veneration for its glorious Author. He cannot fail to obſerve, that even every portion of this earth, ſea, and air, is full of ſenſitive beings, capable, in their reſpective orders, of enjoying the good things God has prepared for their comfort. When philoſophy informs us of the motion of a comet, running beyond the orbit of the Georgian ſtar, attempting to eſcape into the pathleſs regions of boundleſs ſpace; yet feeling, at its utmoſt diſtance, the attractive influence of the ſun, hearing, as it were, the voice of God arreſting its progreſs, and compelling it, after a lapſe of ages, to reiterate its ancient courſe! The incomprehenſible diſtance of the ſtars from the earth, and from each other! Our imaginations are confounded and loſt, when we are told, that a ray of light, which moves at the rate of above ten millions of miles in a minute, will not, though emitted at this inſtant, from the brighteſt ſtar, reach the earth in leſs than ſix years!

But we are ſtill more confounded in contemplating the goodneſs and condeſcenſion of the Supreme Being, in rectifying the fatal errors which had convulſed and ruined the moral world. Theſe excite, in a well-diſpoſed mind, the mingled emotions of "wonder, love, and praiſe." He, therefore, who conſiders, that "in Him we live, move, and have our being, may readily yield his aſſent to the propriety of either publicly or privately acknowledging his dependence upon that independent Being, and his humble ſubmiſſion to all the divine diſpenſations. Hence ariſes the propriety of public or ſocial worſhip, and thankfulneſs to that great Firſt Cauſe, from whom we derive all

all our benefits; nor can man be engaged in an employment ſo dignifying, ſo ſublime, and ſo truly noble.

Contemplations ſuch as theſe fill the mind with humble benevolence and piety.

It aroſe, as we ought charitably to ſuppoſe, from theſe and ſimilar conſiderations, that the early inhabitants of Newcaſtle crowded the town with places of worſhip. The river, the hills, the dales, and the adjacent ocean, would all tend to impreſs them with ideas at once ſublime and devout. They might be miſtaken in the leſſer circumſtances of mode and form, but the grand principle, the continued ſenſation of acknowledgments of the power and benevolence of the Supreme Being, ever remains the ſame.

When we ſee the names of Roger Thornton, Lawrence Acton, Robert Rhodes, and many others, inſcribed in public places of devotion, in marble and on braſs, but "whoſe record is on high," we are inſpired with a veneration for the ſanctity of their characters and the ſplendour of their virtues; and yet who (maugre the ample fortunes which they acquired and the high honours to which they attained) knew how to "uſe the world as not abuſing it," as well as any *ſcoffing* infidel, either in their own times or in ours.

Theſe introductory remarks on this important branch of our work, may not ſeem unneceſſary, when we conſider the uſes and deſigns of churches; as, when we ſee large and convenient ſtructures, with curious and ingenious pieces of machinery, and are informed that they are intended for caſting iron, ſmelting metals, fabricating ſilk, cotton, linen, woollen, &c. for the ſervice of man, ſo churches are for that of the Moſt High, who inhabits that which is "not made with hands." The

The ancient Perſians reprobated the idea of including the omnipreſence of the Deity in temples made of ſtone or marble, accounting the *univerſe* his temple. It was on that account that Xerxes, the Perſian emperor, upon his invading Greece, burnt down all the temples, as blaſphemouſly reflecting upon the Divine Omnipreſence; the Magian prieſts, who attended him in this expedition, inciting that prince to this act of religious zeal. And it is very remarkable, that the ancient Druids, had the places of their ſimple, yet ſublime worſhip, open at top: but their more general *clach-ſleachda'*, or "ſtone of worſhip," was in a circular arrangement of huge ſtones, and always on ſome eminence, from whence they might have a proſpect of the expanſe of the heavens, and the circumjacent country, in order to enlarge their ideas and elevate their adoration.

It is a very curious circumſtance, that at Calender, about twenty miles north of Stirling, is the mountain of Benledy,* one of the higheſt in Scotland; on the very ſummit of which was a Druidical temple, conſiſting of huge ſtones, in a circular form, and which probably have been erected for two thouſand years. Thither, at ſet times, all the inhabitants uſed to attend, for the purpoſes of devotion; and to this day, as the worthy miniſter (Mr. Robertſon, of Calender) informed us, when the people enquire of one another, on Sunday mornings, if they mean to go to church? they ſay, in Gaelic, "Are you going *(do clachan) to the ſtones* to-day?" Referring, no doubt, to the practice of their progenitors, before the introduction of Chriſtianity into the iſland.

* *Ben*, hill, *le Dia*, of God;--Hill of God. Gaelick.

It may be objected, that the ubiquity of the Deity forbids the idea of local worſhip. In reply we would obſerve, that, as by temples and churches we cannot *include*, ſo the very term *ubiquity* implies, that it is equally impoſſible to *exclude* the Divine Preſence.

We now proceed to deſcribe St. Nicholas' church, and eſpecially its beautiful and magnificent ſpire, the pride and chief ornament of Newcaſtle.

This moſt elegant ſtructure is juſtly the object of admiration to all ſtrangers, as well as it is the pride and boaſt of the inhabitants; who you will not eaſily perſuade, that, for lightneſs, ſymmetry, loftineſs, and architectural grandeur, any ſteeple in the world is like theirs; and, to ſay the truth, it will not eaſily be found. From whatever quarter we approach the town, St. Nicholas preſents its beautiful ſpire.

It was termed "the Church of Newcaſtle upon Tyne:" either intimating that it had been erected before any other church was built in the town; or elſe, *per excellentiam*, by way of dignity. According to the ſuperſtition of the times, it was dedicated to Saint Nicholas. But we are not from the name to conclude, that this was the ſame Saint Nicholas, who was one of the ſeven apoſtolic deacons, and who, renouncing the pure and ſimple doctrines of Chriſtianity, founded a ſect of the Gnoſtics, which became for ages the bane of the church, and whoſe infamous doctrine, throwing down all reſtraints reſpecting intercourſe between the ſexes, is ſo ſeverely reprobated, Rev. ii. v. 15. The Saint Nicholas, to whom this noble ſtructure was dedicated, was, according to eccleſiaſtical hiſtory, biſhop of Myra, a city in Lycia, a province of Aſia Minor. He lived about the beginning of the fourth century, and, during the perſecution

tion under Licinius the Roman emperor, was ſent into baniſhment: but after the death of that tyrant, he reviſited his dioceſe, and threw out all the idols which he found. He is ſaid to have aſſiſted at the famous general council of Nice, and appeared a ſtrenuous opponent to the Arians. His feſtival is on the 6th of December.

In Mr. Bourne's time, a large flag, which was the firſt ſtep into the church, at the north door, was cut all along the ſurface with uneven lines, in imitation of the waves of the ſea, as a ſilent remembrancer of this ſaint, ſo famous among ſome for his miracles and apparitions by ſea, that he has merited the title of the "patron of the ſailors." If this was the caſe, it ſeems as if predictive of the number and conſequence of that uſeful body of men, which one day was to prove the ſtrength and opulence of Newcaſtle.

Who the founder of this noble building was, is not diſtinctly handed down. It is rather mortifying to human pride, to conſider, that the names of thoſe who have reared the moſt magnificent and ſtupendous ſtructures in the world have been utterly ſwallowed up and loſt. Of this the Egyptian pyramids are a memorable example. Theſe wonderful efforts of art have exiſted nearly entire for four thouſand years, yet the names of their original founders is a ſubject of continued diſpute. It is the caſe with this more uſeful and beautiful fabric; ſome aſcribing its exiſtence to Henry I. others to Oſmund, biſhop of Saliſbury, anno 1091. This Oſmund was by birth a Norman, and attended the conqueror in his ſucceſsful invaſion of England; was created, by that prince, earl of Dorſet, and, according to Godwin, elevated

to the chancelloriſhip of England. So meritorious was this prince-prelate, that he was enrolled in the calendar of the ſaints, being canonized upon his death, anno 1099.

King Henry made over the church of Newcaſtle, with that of Newburn, to the biſhop of Carliſle, who to this day is the impropriator and patron. The other churches are dependent upon it, and yet they are termed three diſtinct pariſhes. The vicar receives dues from them all.

In the year 1194, in the reign of king Stephen, Hugh Pudſey, biſhop of Durham, aſſigned to the miniſter of St. Nicholas' church all the fruits, annual profits, oblations, and obventions, belonging to that church, except the great tythes.

It ſtands in an advantageous and elevated ſituation, almoſt in the centre of the town. It is ſeventy-nine yards, two feet, and nine inches in length; and of a height in which the moſt exact proportion has been obſerved. But the principal object of admiration in this mother-church is its curious and lofty ſteeple. Four images cut in ſtone, at full length, are placed in the four corners of the ſquare tower, out of which riſes a curious ſteeple, ſixty-four yards, one foot, and nine inches in height, adorned with thirteen pinnacles, two bold ſtone arches ſupporting a large and beautiful lanthorn, on which is a tall and ſtately ſpire. It has eight muſical bells, on which occaſionally are rung a variety of changes, and are heard at a great diſtance. The great bell was new caſt at Colcheſter. It weighed 3129 pounds. The preſent tenor, or great bell, was put up in 1734, the old one having been cracked in ringing.

It

It is a note of the late celebrated Dr. Warburton, biſhop of Glouceſter, that as the early Chriſtians worſhipped in groves, and amidſt thick and ſhady trees, ſo the firſt converts among the Goths built their churches ſo, as to bear ſome reſemblance to theſe original places of worſhip; the ſtrong pillars which ſupported them were arranged in parallel rows, whoſe tops diverged along the roof like the ſpreading tops of trees. St. Nicholas' church, and indeed almoſt all old churches, are conſtructed in this form.

In the year 1359, this church is ſaid to have been re-built; probably having decayed through age.

At the bottom of the belfrey is this inſcription:

Orate pro animâ ROBERTI RHODES.
Pray for the ſoul of *ROBERT RHODES.*

This Robert Rhodes, it is highly probable, was the munificent contributor towards building the lanthorn and the pinnacles of the ſteeple, as he is mentioned with great reſpect by Harding, mayor, in 1453, who was his cotemporary. This fine piece of architecture has undergone ſeveral repairs. So lately as 1796, it had a thorough one; when a new vane, entirely of copper, was put upon the upper ſpire, and the whole painted in oil, of a ſtone colour, to the croſs leads. The roof, which is lofty and grand, is ſupported by Gothic pillars, well cut, maſſy, and ſtrong.

In the organ-gallery is a double organ. On the north ſide of this gallery is St. George's porch. It is vaulted underneath, and cieled above; was anciently adorned with curious carvings in wood, and the windows with paintings on the glaſs.

St. Mary's porch is railed in, and employed for the daily burial ſervice.

Saint

Saint Margaret's porch is the burial-place of the Bewick family, of Cloſe-houſe. Robert died Sept. 3d, 1771, aged 44. He was knighted by king Geo. III. when high ſheriff of Northumberland.

The whole area of this ſpacious church was covered with inſcriptions on flag-ſtones, commemorative of the dead who ſleep below. But when it had an entire alteration, in the year 1783, being transformed into a kind of cathedral, moſt of the monumental ſtones were removed, broken, ſtolen, or loſt: which (ſays Mr. Brand) the antiquarian muſt deeply lament.

At that time, the pulpit, and the whole of the pews, galleries, &c. were taken away. The chancel was quite diſmantled, the altar ſkreen removed backward to the great eaſt window. In ſhort, every old erection was levelled, except the organ gallery.—Since then no burials are permitted in the place appointed for divine ſervice.

In the middle, and on the croſs-roof, are the coats of arms of the kings, princes, biſhops, abbots, the town mayors and benefactors, affixed to the joinings of the timbers at the top. It would be tedious to enumerate the monuments and inſcriptions with which this famous church abounds. We ſhall therefore only ſelect a few of the moſt conſpicuous.

On the ſouth wall is a moſt magnificent mural monument, with the figure of the late alderman Ridley, beautifully cut in marble, which preſents a ſtriking appearance, and is worthy of a place in Weſtminſter Abbey: it does great credit to the architect, and reflects honour upon the filial duty of his ſurviving ſon, the preſent Sir M. W. Ridley.

To

To the Memory of MATTHEW RIDLEY, Eſq.
of Blagdon and Heaton, in the county of Northumberland,
Senior Alderman of the Town,
and Governor of the Company of Merchant Adventurers.
He four times ſerved the office of Mayor;
in which ſtation, in the year 1745,
he rendered eſſential ſervice to his country,
averting, by his prudence and activity,
the attack meditated againſt this town
by the enemies of the houſe of Brunſwick,
and thereby materially checking the progreſs of their arms.
He was unanimouſly elected, by his fellow burgeſſes,
to repreſent them in five ſucceſſive Parliaments,
and retired from that ſituation
when the declining ſtate of his health
rendered him incapable of fulfilling the duties of it.
He lived reſpected and beloved,
and died, univerſally lamented, April 6th, 1778,
aged 66.

On the ſouth wall, above the veſtry door:

Sacred to the Memory
of SARAH BLACKETT,
who departed this life July 14, 1775,
aged 35.
This monument is erected in teſtimony
of the tender remembrance
of an affectionate huſband,
whoſe grief for the loſs of an amiable wife
can only find comfort
in full aſſurance
of that promiſed reward
which virtue inherits
in the regions of immortality.

In Saint George's porch are interred
the remains of MATTHEW DUANE,
of Lincoln's Inn, London, Eſq.
Fellow of the Royal and Antiquarian Societies,
and a Truſtee of the Britiſh Muſeum.

He

He was of great eminence in the knowledge of the law,
and of the ſtricteſt integrity and liberality in the practice of it.
At the ſame time,
the friend and the patron of the polite and fine arts.
And particularly diſtinguiſhed
by his ſingular ſkill, judgment, and taſte,
in chooſing and collecting a moſt complete ſeries
of Syrian, Phœnician, Grecian, Roman, and other coins,
now depoſited in the muſeum of the late William Hunter, M. D.
for the illuſtration and confirmation of hiſtory.
The virtues of his heart were equal to
the endowments of his mind.
Juſtice, benevolence, and charity, dictated his ſentiments,
in promoting the happineſs of mankind.
He died the 6th day of February, 1785, aged 78.
In teſtimony of affection and ſincere eſteem,
his widow erected this monument to his memory.

On a pillar, ſouth ſide of the preſent middle aiſle:

Near this place lie interred,
the remains of THOMAS DOCKWRAY, A. M.
many years lecturer of this church;
Who, after a life worn out in learned and religious ſervices,
departed, to the mercy of God, on the 15th of May, 1760,
in the 71ſt year of his age.
He had an able head and an upright heart.
As a preacher, he was inſtructive, nervous, eloquent;
in private life, he was adorned with thoſe virtues
which diſtinguiſh the worthy man and the good Chriſtian.
His nephew, Thomas Dockwray, placed this monument
of his gratitude to the memory of the beſt of friends.

Mural, in Saint George's porch:

In Memory of WILLIAM PEARETH, Eſq.
of Uſworth-Houſe, in the county of Durham;
a man of abilities and worth,
whoſe amiable qualities endeared him to his family and friends.
He ſerved this Corporation, with aſſiduity and integrity,
as Clerk of the Town's Chamber and Alderman,
near fifty years, always declining the office of Mayor.

He

He married, in 1731, Ann, youngeſt daughter of Richard Jenners, Eſq. of Warwickſhire; by whom he had iſſue fifteen children. Of thoſe, two ſons ſurvived him, William and Richard Thomas, and ſix daughters. Suſannah, married to Henry Wright, Eſq. of Northamptonſhire; Elizabeth, Ann, Mary, Henrietta, and Barbary. He did May 20, 1775, aged 72 years.
His widow, in teſtimony of her affection and gratitude, cauſed this monument to be erected.

Mural monument, north wall:

In St. George's porch lie interred,
the remains of Mrs. BARBARA DAWSON,
the widow of Mr. Thomas Dawſon.
She died in the year 1736, aged 38 years.
And of Mrs. Suſannah Peareth, her ſiſter,
who died in the year 1769, aged 71 years.
Both were the daughters of Henry Peareth, Eſq.
by Elizabeth Jackſon his wife.
This monument of filial duty and reſpect
for one of the beſt of mothers,
and a ſincere regard for an affectionate aunt,
was erected by Dorothy,
daughter of the ſaid Barbara Dawſon,
and wife of Matthew Duane, Eſq.
in the year 1776.

On the wall of St. George's porch is a beautiful marble monument, with the following inſcription:

Hic ſitæ ſunt exuviæ
ROBERTI SHAFTO, Equitis aurati,
nec non ad legem ſervientis,
et hujus municipii proprætoris.
In deſideratiſimi patris memoriam
hoc marmor poſuit unicus defuncti filius
Marcus Shafto de Whitworth
in comitatu Dunelmen' Arm'.
Obii Maii 21°,
A. D. 1705.
Vixit annos 72.

Engliſhed:

Here lie buried the remains
Of Robert Shafto, Bart
bred to the law,
and Mayor of this town.
In memory of a moſt beloved father,
Mark Shafto, of Whitworth,
in the county of Durham, Eſq.
the only ſon of the deceaſed,
placed this monumental marble.
He died May 21,
in the year 1705.
He lived 72 years.

Columnal, or fixed to a pillar, on the north ſide of the ſouth aiſle. This monument is of marble, and has been painted and gilded ſince its firſt erection. At the top are the images of faith, hope, and charity, with their uſual attributes. Below theſe are the ſtatues of three perſons of each ſex, on their knees, in ſuppliant attitudes. The two on each ſide of the deſk, in front, are evidently meant for Henry Maddiſon and Elizabeth his wife, the daughter of Robert Barker: over them a ſhield. Inſcription as follows:

Here reſt, in Chriſtian hope, the bodies of LIONEL MADDISON, ſon of Rowland Maddiſon, of the county of Durham, Eſq. and of JANE his wife. She died July 9, 1611. He, having been thrice Mayor of this town, departed December 6, 1624, aged 94 years. He lived to ſee his only ſon Henry father to a fair and numerous iſſue.

Here lie interred alſo the bodies of HENRY MADDISON and ELIZABETH his wife, who lived together moſt comfortably 40 years. Elizabeth, his only wife, had iſſue to him ten ſons and ſix daughters. Their eldeſt ſon, Sir Lionel Maddiſon, knight, Robert, Ralph, &c.

Under-

Underneath the ſixteen ſmaller figures of the children of Henry and Elizabeth Maddiſon, is a beautiful ſeries of ſmall ſhields, pointing out their intermarriages.

In the ſouth aiſle, againſt one of the pillars, is a marble monument, with this inſcription:

Memoriæ PATRICII CROWE,
olim de Aſhlington, Armigeri,
cujus corpus haud procul
marmore cliſto ſepultum jacet.
Obii die Januarii 31°,
Anno Domini 1694.

Engliſhed:

To the memory of PATRICK CROWE,
of Aſhlington, Eſq.
whoſe body lies buried
not far from this marble.
He died January 31,
in the year 1694.

Mural:

Near this place
are interred the remains
of ALICE INGHAM,
Widow of William Ingham,
late of Whitby, in Yorkſhire, ſurgeon.
He died the 11th of November, 1794.
This monument
is erected
to her memory
by her ſon,
William Ingham,
ſurgeon in this town.

Sacred to the memory of
The Rev. NATHANIEL ELLISON, Newcaſtle,
formerly fellow in Merton College, Oxford,
late Vicar of Bolam,
and lecturer of St. Andrew's, Newcaſtle.

He reſigned his ſoul into the hands of his Creator,
the 1ſt of Auguſt, 1798,
in the 62d year of his age.
His remains lie interred in this place.
He lived univerſally beloved,
and died unfeignedly regretted.

Mr. Robinſon's burial place.

Here lie buried under this ſtone,
Of JOHN BENNET both body and bone,
Late of theſe north parts, maſter of the ordnance,
Which deceaſed by God's Providence,
The eighth day of the month of July,
In perfect faith, love, and charity,
A thouſand five hundred ſixty and eight,
Whoſe ſoul to heaven he truſted went ſtraight,
Through God's great mercy, bloodſhed, and death,
Which only he truſted to during his breath.
So truſt we his Wife and Children, who cauſed this,
And Captain Carvel, a friend of his.

We will not further treſpaſs on the time and patience of our readers by enlarging the enumeration of theſe memorials, with which this noble ſtructure (notwithſtanding the vaſt number ſwept away by the late alteration) ſtill abounds. But the mind which ſeriouſly looks forward to the termination of all things, may, in this magnificent, ſacred receſs, learn a leſſon of ſupreme wiſdom. And when we tread on the tomb, of magiſtrates, miniſters in the ſacred office, generals, ſeamen, artiſts, ſtateſmen, all, all blended together in one common maſs of mortality; and when ſitting over the "mighty dead," in the aſſembly of the living,---

"Where through the long-drawn aiſle and fretted vault
"The pealing anthem ſwells the note of praiſe." GRAY.

how

how are we ſtruck with reverence in reflecting on the ſolemnity of our ſituation!---" But a ſtep, a ſhort ſtep too, between us and death!"

"I know, ſays Addiſon, (the ſweeteſt writer in queen Anne's reign) that contemplations of that nature are apt to raiſe dark and diſmal thoughts in timorous minds and gloomy imaginations; but for my part, though I am always ſerious, I do not know what it is to be melancholy; and can therefore take a view of nature, in her deep and ſolemn ſcenes, with the ſame pleaſure as in her moſt gay and delightful ones. By this means I can improve myſelf with thoſe objects which others conſider with terror.---When I look upon the tombs of the great, every emotion of envy dies in me; when I read the epitaphs of the beautiful, every immoderate deſire goes out; when I meet with the grief of parents upon a tomb-ſtone, my heart melts with compaſſion; when I ſee the tomb of the parents themſelves, I conſider the vanity of grieving for thoſe whom we muſt quickly follow. When I ſee kings (in Weſtminſter abbey) lying by thoſe who depoſed them; when I conſider rival wits placed ſide by ſide, or the *holy men* that divided the world with their conteſts and diſputes, I reflect with ſorrow and aſtoniſhment on the little competitions, factions, and debates of mankind. When I read the ſeveral dates of the tombs, of ſome that died yeſterday, and ſome ſix hundred years ago, I conſider that great day when we ſhall all of us be cotemporaries, and make our appearance together."---*Spectator, No.* 26.

CHAN-

CHANTRIES IN ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH.

It was the faſhion, ſays Mr. Brand, in the times of the papal ſuperſtition, for lords of manors, and other perſons of great wealth and importance, to build ſmall chapels, or ſide aiſles, in their pariſh churches, deſigned for burying-places for their families; which they frequently endowed with lands, &c. for the ſupport of chantry prieſts, to pray daily, at altars erected therein, for the ſouls of the founders, and thoſe of their anceſtors and poſterity.

Where theſe ſuperſtitious papiſts, as Mr. B. here ſomewhat unhandſomely terms a *ſiſter church*, could make ſuch a grand diſcovery as that of *purgatory*, we editors, not preſuming to claſs ourſelves with ſuch redoubtable doctors, dare not ſay; yet we venture to affirm where *they have not found it*, and that is, neither in the wide field of *ſcripture* nor of *reaſon*. And we may ſafely add, that this frightful fiction has brought more pence into *St. Peter's* coffers than any other ſource of ſpiritual revenue whatever.

However, in this capacious church, there were nine, ſome ſay ten chantries. We will only ſlightly glance at them, as it is long ſince they have been aboliſhed.

I. The chantry of St. John the Baptiſt and St. John the Apoſtle. It was ſituated on the north ſide of the church. Its foundation is ſo remote as 1149. Laurentius, prior of Durham, founded it; and, two centuries after, it was re-founded by Richard de Embleton, a magiſtrate of Newcaſtle, who made a great figure in thoſe times. He was ſo liberal as to provide for three chaplains to this chantry.

This

This celebrated Richard de Emeldon had been above twelve times chief magiſtrate in Newcaſtle. He obtained letters patent from king Edward the Third, to build upon a vacant piece of ground, over againſt the chapel of St. Thomas the martyr, that he might preſent it to three chaplains, to procure their prayers for him while he was living, and after he was dead, and alſo for the ſouls of his wives and his father and mother, every day, at the altar of St. Nicholas, which was dedicated to John the Baptiſt and John the apoſtle and evangeliſt.

The prieſts ſet apart to attend this altar were, every day, to pray for his ſoul and thoſe of his relations. And by an order from Richard, lord biſhop of Durham, the chaplains for the time being, on the anniverſary of his death, every year for ever, to celebrate his memory by a ſolemn tolling of bells, and devoutly ſinging by note, in the evening of the anniverſary, and ſolemnly to ſing maſs, for the ſoul of Richard himſelf, the ſouls above-mentioned, and the ſouls of all the faithful departed; and after maſs one of the chaplains was to diſtribute among one hundred and ſixty poor people the ſum of ſix ſhillings and eightpence, and this annually for ever.

This chantry was enriched alſo by Robert Rhodes; and, after the death of that worthy character, the corporation of Newcaſtle gave ſeven pounds ſeven ſhillings and tenpence with a houſe, as a maintenance for one chaplain, to pray for his ſoul, for whoſe memory they had the higheſt reſpect, and to whom the town owed many obligations.

The other chantries, dedicated to our Lady, to St. Peter and St. Paul, to St. Margaret, to St. Loye, &c. in this church, were all founded with the ſame intentions;

tions; but which the light breaking in upon Europe, at the reformation, diſcovered to be completely ridiculous. We will, therefore, readily be forgiven in omitting any further account of theſe receſſes of ignorance and miſtaken devotion.

GALLERIES AND PEWS.

The immenſe maſſes of huge ſtone pillars greatly tend to obſtruct the hearing, in this and all the churches built in the old ſtile of architecture. In the year 1785, an entire new ſet of pews was erected in St. Nicholas' church; yet the alteration is ſaid to have increaſed, rather than diminiſhed, the uſual inconvenience of low voices in the miniſters.

The gallery, commonly called the head-ſchool gallery, was moved from its ancient ſituation to the front of St. George's porch.

THE CHANCEL.

The altar was ſometimes made of wood, and, during the reign of popery, of ſtone. It was even accounted a matter of conſequence, and required the deciſion of general councils, to determine in what part of the church the communion table was to be placed. The chancel of St. Nicholas, where that part of the worſhip was performed, has been thrown entirely open, and the communion table removed cloſe under the great eaſtern window.

THE FONT.

In the ſimple and pureſt times of Chriſtianity, the initiatory rite of baptiſm was performed, by *immerſion*, in rivers and fountains, eſpecially in the warm climates of the eaſt. When it aſſumed a more *magnificent*

ficent form, fonts were invented, and firſt uſed in private houſes, afterwards placed in the church porch, and laſtly within the church itſelf, but near the door, expreſſive of its nature, as an ordinance of initiation. Yet myſtery in matters of faith encreaſing, the buffooneries of ſplendor and ornament degraded the ſimple river and the gratuitous immerſion of the adult convert, into the artificial font, and the prieſtly and hired ſprinkling of every new-born *chriſtian* child!

The font of St. Nicholas is of light and elegant workmanſhip. It had been either made or repaired by Robert Rhodes, the builder or repairer of the upper part of the ſteeple; as his coat of arms, with another, probably his wife's, is ſculptured on the baſis of this ancient and curious religious veſſel.

WINDOWS.

A ſtructure ſo lofty and capacious as St. Nicholas' church required large and ample conveniences for light. Mr. Bourne ſays, "in this church are many ſumptuous windows, but that in the eaſt ſurpaſſeth all the reſt in height, largeneſs, and beauty." Grey ſays, there were in this window the twelve apoſtles, and the ſeven deeds of charity, painted on the glaſs; that it was built by the beneficent Roger Thornton; and that this inſcription was on it: "*Orate pro anima Rogeri de Thornton, et pro animabus filiorum & filiarum. Pray for the ſoul of Roger Thornton, and for the ſouls of his ſons and of his daughters.*" Theſe, by time and alterations, are now effaced. The figure of our Saviour, of miſerable execution, in modern ſtained glaſs, has been alſo happily removed.

THE ORGAN.

This magnificent inſtrument is ſaid to have been invented and employed in religious worſhip in the eaſt; the firſt organ uſed in the weſtern churches being ſent from Greece to Pepin king of France, anno 766. In its conſtruction, approximation to the human voice has been ſtudiouſly regarded; and yet it has ever been acknowledged, that a well-toned voice, in which the powers of melody have been cultivated, infinitely excels the beſt inſtrument ever formed by the ingenuity of man. Whether by the pipes of which it is compoſed, ſuch as the *vox leonis*, (the voice of the lion), the *vox hominis*, (the voice of man, &c.) the oriental Chriſtians meant to convey the idea of awful terror, powerful reaſoning, ſweet perſuaſion, celeſtial harmony, with which divine worſhip every where abounds, we preſume not to ſay; but when attended with a number of melodious voices, it has a powerful effect:

"The pealing organ ſwells the note of praiſe."—GRAY.

And yet, ornamental and harmonious as this noble inſtrument is, no perſuaſion could ever induce the church of Scotland to adopt it in their worſhip. Tell a plain Scotchman that an organ is abſolutely proper in divine worſhip; that it is naked, unadorned, and inharmonious without it; he would likely reply---"Sir, I read in the word, that we are to ſing wi' grace, making melody in our hearts; but I wad like to ken what grace is in the hearts of a *bunch o' whiſtles?*"

About the year 1676, the corporation of Newcaſtle contributed three hundred pounds towards the erection

erection of the preſent organ. They added a trumpet ſtop to it, anno 1699. In 1710, the back front of this organ was finiſhed, which coſt the ſaid corporation two hundred pounds, together with the expence of cleaning and repairing the whole inſtrument. In 1749, a ſwell ſtop was added to it.

In the veſtry are preſerved the pariſh regiſters.--- That of baptiſms begins A. D. 1558: that of marriages and burials, in 1574.

Parochial regiſters, throughout the kingdom, were appointed in the year 1538. They are of ſignal ſervice to the community.

CHURCH-YARD OF ST. NICHOLAS.

It was ſo late as the year 1761, that this receſs of the dead was incloſed, by ſubſcription, with a brick wall, with ſtrong wooden rails thereon. There is a convenient foot-path, well paved, and of ſufficient breadth, all round it.

The tomb and head-ſtones are no way remarkable, only, in general, informing the paſſenger of the time when ſuch an one was born and died.

DONATIONS AND LEGACIES TO THE POOR.

The number of theſe acts of charity, by the humane and generous of St. Nicholas' pariſh, reflects unfading honours upon their memory. But, however laudable, directly conſidered, yet the practice of theſe, and every other ſpecies of *indiſcriminate* charity, indirectly tends to decreaſe induſtry, and give the poor a fawning, ſuppliant, dependent ſpirit.

It would engroſs too large a portion of our work minutely to particularize them all. Among many others are the following:

Henry Hilton, Eſq. of Hilton,	per annum	£. 4	0	0
Thomas Daviſon, Eſq. - -	ditto	2	3	6
Sir Alexander Daviſon - -	ditto	2	0	0
Sir Mark Milbank - - -	ditto	6	0	0
Sir William Blackett - -	ditto	2	0	0
Nicholas Ridley, Eſq. - -	ditto	1	10	0
William Grey, Eſq. of Backworth	ditto	5	0	0

But, as their pious donations are "recorded elſewhere," we are the leſs ſolicitous to inſert them.

Of the charity ſchool belonging to this pariſh we will treat afterwards.---*See Public Charities.*

VICARS OF ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH.

It is a juſt obſervation, that grand and ſplendid as the fineſt church may be, yet its brighteſt ornament is an *enlightened and uſeful miniſtry.* That there have been ſuch in the long liſt of clergymen who have preſided in this mother church, we may readily ſuppoſe. We will name only a few.

Richard de Aurea Valle, or of Gold-bourn, was miniſter of this church in the reign of king Henry I. Nothing particular is handed down concerning him; nor of Gilbert de Lacy, in the time of Henry III.---During the revolution of three hundred years, we have the names of the ſucceſſive vicars of Newcaſtle, but nothing memorable of their lives and miniſtrations.

Anno 1623, Thomas Jackſon, S. T. P. was inſtituted to this vicarage, in which he continued ten years. His parts and learning were ſo conſpicuous, that he was invited, by the Chancellor of Oxford, to the

the high dignity of preſident of Corpus Chriſti college. He died December 21, 1640, and was buried in the inner chapel of that college. This gentleman was deſcended from a very worthy family of the county of Durham; and was firſt deſigned, by his parents, for the mercantile life, in this town, where many of his connexions principally lived, in great wealth and proſperity. At the inſtance of a noble lord, he was ſent to the univerſity of Oxford, where he entered at Queen's college, under the celebrated Dr. Crankenthorp, and there made great progreſs in learning. Going one day to bathe in the river, he had a narrow eſcape from death, having lain long under water; but was providentially reſtored by the ſkill of Dr. Channel, an eminent phyſician of that place.

Anno 1630, Yeldred Alvey, S. T. P. ſucceeded Dr. Jackſon in this vicarage. He was depoſed from his charge, in 1645, by order of the lords and commons, and was buried in this church 1648. The celebrated Prynne, who wrote the *Hiſtrio Maſtyx*, or Player's Scourge, (for which, by order of the Star Chamber, he was deprived of both his ears) in his famous book, entitled "Hidden Works of Darkneſs," calls vicar Alvey "the Arminian and ſuperſtitious vicar of Newcaſtle."

Robert Jenniſon, D. D. was, by a reſolution of the houſe of commons, appointed to the vicarage of Newcaſte, in the room of Y. Alvey, removed for his delinquency. He was allowed, by the ſame high authority, a ſalary of one hundred pounds per annum. His political principles, and religious deportment, were ſo acceptable to the houſe, that they ordered his ſalary to be augmented to one hundred and forty pounds

pounds per annum. Dr. Jenniſon died November 6, 1652, and was buried in the church of St. Nicholas.

He was not only a celebrated preacher, but alſo a pious and popular writer. He wrote a book "concerning the Idolatry of the Iſraelites;" another entitled "Newcaſtle's Call to her Neighbour and Siſter Towns and Cities, occaſioned by the Peſtilence."

Anno 1652, Mr Samuel Hammond was, by an order of the common council, appointed to preach at St. Nicholas on Sunday forenoons, and to lecture on Thurſdays, with an annual ſalary of one hundred and fifty pounds. He was of the ſect called "The Congregational Judgment." Upon the reſtoration of Charles II. he would not conform. When he had a call, or invitation, to preach at Newcaſtle, his anſwer was, "that he was ready, with all chearfulneſs, to embrace their call, and ſerve God and the town in that great work, finding himſelf and the people much in the hearts of one another." He was to preach every Sunday at Nicholas' church in the forenoon, upon every Thurſday to lecture in the morning, and at other times, as occaſion required: Saint was accounted ſuperſtitious by the Puritans of the paſt times, and is thought abſurd by many people of the preſent.

The manuſcript Life of Barnes ſays, that Mr. Hammond was a butcher's ſon, of York, but raiſed the meanneſs of his birth by the eminency of his qualifications. He was colleague with Mr. Weld, of Gateſhead.

John March, B. D. was inducted vicar of Newcaſtle, anno 1679. He died 1692, and was buried in St. Nicholas' church.

Mr.

Mr. Bourne gives an excellent character of this divine. "John March, B. D. (ſays he) was born in this town. He was an admirable ſcholar, a man of ſtrict piety, and a moſt powerful inſtructor. The laſt ſermon he preached was from the epiſtle to the Hebrews, ch. ii. v. 3. *How ſhall we eſcape if we neglect ſo great ſalvation?* It was on a Sunday morning, and on the Sunday following he was buried." This, and eleven more, were publiſhed in the year 1693, by Dr. John Scott, the celebrated author of the Chriſtian Life, with a recommendatory preface to them.

"A Vindication of the preſent great Revolution in England, in five letters betwixt James Welwood, M. D. and Mr. John March, vicar of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, occaſionedby a ſermon preached by him on January 30, 1689, before the mayor and aldermen, on paſſive obedience and non-reſiſtance."

Several ſermons of his were publiſhed in his lifetime, viz. The Falſe Prophet unmaſked, or the Wolf ſtripped of his Sheep's Cloathing, preached on the 30th of January, 1683, before the mayor, &c. and dedicated to them; with many others, in which Mr. March diſcovers much reading and learning.

Yet the common-council books contain a curious entry, July 15, 1690. "Mr. March, vicar---Ordered, that Mr. Mayor, &c. acquaint him, that his ſalary will be ſtopped, unleſs he pray for king William and queen Mary by name." By this, it ſeems that their worſhips wanted to make a *Vicar of Bray* of good Mr. March. This, indeed, is no "*new thing* on the earth!"

Nathaniel Elliſon, D. D. was appointed vicar of St. Nicholas, April 30, 1695. With conſent of the patron

patron, his salary from the corporation to be eighty pounds per annum, with ten pounds more for Thursday lectures. He had been installed archdeacon of Stafford in 1682. He was, besides, rector of Whitburn, in the county of Durham, a prebend in that cathedral, and also in that of Litchfield.

In the year 1700, he published, at London, a sermon preached before the mayor and magistrates of Newcastle, on the Sunday after the election of the mayor, &c. "The Magistrate's Obligation to punish Vice." A. D. 1701, his sermon on confirmation, preached June 23, 1700, before lord Crewe, bishop of Durham, (who made him his chaplain) at St. Nicholas' church in Newcastle, was printed at London.

In the year 1710, he printed a sermon at London, which was preached in All Saints' church, Newcastle, on All Saints' day, 1709, at the opening of a charity-school in that parish. It is a masterly discourse, entitled "The Obligations and Opportunities of doing Good to the Poor," 4to.

He died May 4, 1721, aged 64 years, and was buried under the east window of the south aisle of St. Nicholas' church.†

He left in manuscript a collection of interesting notes on the History of Newcastle, from which we derive

† An extraordinary instance of good luck befel the family of the Ellisons. Sir Benjamin Rawling, knight, sheriff of London, dying intestate in 1775, his considerable real estate devolved to Mrs. Miles Corney, bookseller, in Penrith, Cumberland; and his personal effects, amounting, it is said, to upwards of 120,000l. to Mrs. Elizabeth Ellison, of Westgate-street, Newcastle, the only surviving sister of Dr. Ellison. This prodigious fortune, as she died unmarried, she prudently left equally divided among her surviving nephews and nieces, in 1776.

derive much information, and which we cite as Dr. Elliſon's manuſcript.

Anno Dom. 1761, John Brown, D. D. was inducted into this vicarage. He was born at Rothbury, in Northumberland, and was educated at the grammar-ſchool in Wigton, Cumberland, of which place his father was vicar. After purſuing his ſtudies at Cambridge, he returned to Wigton, and in due time received deacon's and prieſt's orders from Sir George Fleming, then biſhop of Carliſle. His attachment to whig principles ſoon obtained him the living of Morland, in the county of Weſtmoreland, which, however, he afterwards reſigned. He was ingenious and learned, and excelled in compoſitions, both in proſe and verſe. His "Eſtimate of the Manners and Principles of the Times" acquired him high reputation. He was author of ſeveral works of celebrity; among which were two tragedies, viz. Barbaroſſa and Athelſtan; the former of which is well known and much admired by the lovers of the drama. He was paſſionately fond of muſic, and a very conſiderable maſter in that enchanting ſcience. But to theſe qualifications were joined uncommon pride and weakneſs. He was a *high-church-man*, and, *of conſequence*, intolerant to diſſenters, and rigorous in the exaction of his dues. Though aſpiring to a mitre, yet could he not avoid treating his inferiors with contempt, and his ſuperiors with inſolence.

Dr. Brown's ambition was not a little flattered by an invitation which he received from the late empreſs of Ruſſia, in the year 1766, to viſit the court of St. Peterſburgh, in order to aſſiſt in an extenſive plan for improving the manners and morals of the uncivilized Ruſſians. Various reports have been circulated re-

ſpecting the iſſue of this tranſaction, and the mater ſeems *not* to have been generally underſtood. The fact is, the doctor's health would not permit him to undertake the journey to ſo inhoſpitable a climate as that of Ruſſia; and, agreeable to the advice of his friends, he declined the imperial invitation.† This diſappointment, however, concurring with his ſevere indiſpoſition, and accompanied by a recollection of other failures in his expectations, was ſucceeded by a dejection of ſpirits, which cauſed him to commit an act of ſuicide, by cutting the jugular vein with a razor, at his apartments in Pall-mall, on the 23d of September, 1766, in the 51ſt year of his age.

Richard Fawcett, D. D. was inducted to this vicarage, Jan. 3, 1767. He was the ſon of John Fawcett, eſq. recorder of Durham. Dr. Fawcett was bred at Oxford, and had ſeveral livings previous to his appointment to Newcaſtle. He was one of his majeſty's chaplains in ordinary, and chaplain to the biſhop of Durham, by whom he was collated to the rectory of Gateſhead, which he held by a diſpenſation with this vicarage. He was alſo one of the prebendaries of Durham; at which city he died in 1782. He had no animation in his manner of preaching, but was highly diſtinguiſhed for a clear, nervous ſtrain of ſolid reaſoning.

Anno

† The empreſs of Ruſſia had ſent a ſimilar requeſt, about the end of the year 1762, to M. D'Alembert, through the medium of M. De Soltikoff, who then reſided at Paris, offering that profound mathematician one hundred thouſand livres per year, which he refuſed; whereupon the empreſs renewed her ſolicitation, by a letter under her own hand, inviting him to come "with all his friends:" this the philoſopher alſo withſtood, as he did the earneſt ſolicitations of the Great Frederick of Pruſſia, through the lord Mareſchal, his ambaſſador at the ſame place.

Anno Dom. 1782, Stephen Luſhington, A M. was inducted into this vicarage. *He reſided very little at Newcaſtle*, and died in 1801.

His ſucceſſor, the reverend J. D. Carlyle, B. D. F. R. S. E. chancellor of Carliſle, chaplain to the biſhop of Durham, and profeſſor of Arabic in the univerſity of Cambridge, is a gentleman of poliſhed manners and extenſive erudition. In his late journey into Egypt, and his intercourſe with the leaders of the contending armies, he has *proved* to his orthodox brethren, that learning is of no political party:

Tros Tyriuſque mihi nullo diſcrimine agetur.

Trojans and Tyrians are alike to me. VIRGIL.

Whilſt from theſe his extenſive and laborious journies in ſearch of that ſpecies of knowledge attached to his profeſſorſhip, that may be truly applied to him which Homer, from the extent of his travels, ſays of Ulyſſes, the favourite of Minerva:

Wand'ring from clime to clime, obſervant ſtray'd,
Their manners noted, and their ſtates ſurvey'd.

POPE'S HOMER.

But this gentleman having only lately accepted the office of which we now treat, we ſhall cloſe this account with obſerving, that as vicar he is alſo one of the truſtees for the extenſive library of Dr. Thomlinſon, mentioned before; and we do not ſurely flatter ourſelves too much by hoping, that the character of a hero in one of his favourite authors may be alſo applied to Profeſſor Carlyle:

wamokaſſimin yôthéi álâſhéiraho hhakkahá
wamogadhmirin lihhokúkihá hadhámohá

He diſtributes equal ſhares: he diſpenſes juſtice to the tribes: he is indignant, when their right is diminiſhed: and, to eſtabliſh their right, often relinquiſhes his own. POEM OF LEBEID.

AFTERNOON LECTURERS AT ST. NICHOLAS.

We will be very ſhort in this enumeration; altho' we find among the afternoon lecturers men of great worth and high talents. Upon the firſt appointment of this office, the town paid for the ſervice of the forenoon, and the pariſh for that of the afternoon. Some time after, the corporation augmented the ſalaries of both, upon which the pariſh withdrew their contributions. In this ſtate is the lectureſhip at this time.

May 30, 1645, the common-council appointed Mr. William Durant and Mr. Cuthbert Sydenham the former with a ſalary of eighty, the latter of one hundred pounds per annum.

Mr. Sydenham was afterwards ſettled ſingly, with a ſalary of one hundred and forty pounds per annum.

The biographer Wood, however hoſtile to puritans and preſbyterians, yet gives Sydenham an excellent character.

"He was (ſays that writer) lecturer of St. Nicholas' church in Newcaſtle, without any orders, unleſs thoſe of preſbytery; a great ſtateſman, yet a greater divine; and though no commiſſioner to the Weſtminſter ſynod, yet he privately drew up the papers that paſſed in the debates between that vaſt body of divines and the five diſſenting brethren, of the independent perſuaſion."

The manuſcript Life of Barnes ſays, that he was of an ancient family in Cornwall, had a genteel and comely perſon. His aqueline noſe called to remembrance the deſcription given by Lucian of St. Paul, when he calls him that hawk-noſed Galilean, who mounted up to the third heaven, and thence brought thoſe

thoſe goodly notions, which he preached to the world."---He publiſhed a book, entitled "The Myſtery of Godlineſs."

Anno 1679, Mr. John Rawlett was appointed, with a ſalary of ninety, which was afterwards raiſed to one hundred and twenty pounds per annum. He died in 1686, aged 44 years, and was buried in this church.

There is a curious anecdote of this gentlemen in the manuſcript Life of Barnes, "Mr. Butler left a daughter, who married Mr. John Rawlett. He was a conformiſt miniſter, a devout and laborious lecturer in St. Nicholas' church. They had been ſome time mutually in love; but he falling ſick, married her upon his death-bed, at her own requeſt, that ſhe might bear his name, and left her a maid, a wife, and a widow." He was author of many works, viz. "A Treatiſe of Sacramental Covenanting with Chriſt." "An Explication of the Chriſt," "The Chriſtian Monitor," &c.

In the year 1695, Mr. (afterwards Dr.) Thomlinſon was appointed: the ſalary one hundred and twenty pounds per annum. He died on the 24th of March, 1747. We have had repeated occaſion, (of which ſee in particular page 84) and ſhall have at leaſt another very eminent one, of mentioning this good and great man.

Dr. Dockwray was afterwards appointed, anno 1752, with a ſalary of one hundred pounds per ann. He died December 18, 1783,

At his death Henry Ridley, A. M. brother to Sir Matthew White Ridley, ſucceeded.

On the late reſignation of this gentleman, the Rev. John Forſter was appointed.

This,

This, as we ſhall ſee afterwards, is another of thoſe offices that give to the poſſeſſor the right of a truſtee in Dr. Thomlinſon's library.

Chapels of Eaſe to St. Nicholas.

BRIDGE-END CHAPEL.

We have, already, given ſome account of this religious foundation, under the title of St. Thomas's Chapel and the Magdalen Hoſpital. After having been conveniently pewed, it was ſet apart to be a chapel of eaſe to St. Nicholas' church, anno 1732, the whole body of magiſtrates attending in form on the occaſion! It is unneceſſary to enumerate the names of thoſe appointed to perform divine ſervice at this chapel, for which they receive ten pounds per annum, it being, in general, the loweſt ſtep in the clerical climax of preferment; as we have noticed them, and ſhall afterwards have occaſion to do ſo, a great many ſteps higher.

SOUTH GOSFORTH, OR GOSFORD CHAPEL.

This place is of great antiquity, and is mentioned as far back as the reign of Henry II. The names of the officiating curates we omit, as they generally obtained curacies in the town, where we meet with them in other ſituations, more comfortable to their feelings.

NORTH GOSFORTH CHAPEL.

This has been pulled down. Nothing remains but a few ſolitary grave-ſtones, inſcribed with memorials, in the chapel-yard.

CRAM-

CRAMLINGTON CHURCH.

This is about eight miles diſtant from Newcaſtle, and dedicated to St. Nicholas. It is a perpetual curacy. Patrons, by turns, Sir M W. Ridley, bart. and —— Lawſon, eſq. formerly of Cramlington.

There have been a conſiderable number of well-known characters, who have officiated here, viz. Meſſ. Potter, Stevenſon, Alderſon, Brand, (the hiſtorian of this town) and Mr. Falcon, who ſtill holds the curacy. Salary twenty pounds per annum.

Thus have we taken a general view of St. Nicholas' church, its ſtructure, its endowments, its long line of clergy, and, laſtly, its dependent chapels.---- Amongſt its miniſters we have recorded ſome, whoſe characters for learning and piety were eminent while they lived, and whoſe memories will be treated with veneration and eſteem to the remoteſt periods of time, amongſt whom Dr. THOMLINSON ſtands conſpicuous. When meditating on the ineſtimable treaſure he has left to us in his LIBRARY, we would recommend his example to the rich and to the powerful. But, alas! for us to adviſe, is eaſier than for ſuch to practiſe---according to the Welſh proverb,

Hawdd yw d'wedyd daccw'r Wyddva
Nid eir droſti ond yn ara'!

To ſpeak of Snowdon's height, ſublime,
Is far more eaſy than to climb!

JONES'S RELICS OF THE WELCH BARDS.

Should, however, any be inclined to follow a precedent ſo truly illuſtrious, we hope they will benefit by experience, and leave their libraries ſo, as to ſecure them to the town, againſt the innovations of prieſtly indolence and avarice.

ST.

St. JOHN's CHURCH.

This ancient church ſtands in the pleaſant ſtreet of Weſtgate, near the vicarage. It owes ſome of its chief ornaments to the liberal ſpirit of a pious tradeſmen, one of its pariſhioners, Mr. Robert Percival, pin-manufacturer.---He beautified the altar, 1710, and built, at the ſame time, the north gallery, to contain thirty people. On taking down the three old bells, 1707, and procuring, by public ſubſcription, ſix new ones, he gave three pounds. But his beneficence did not terminate with his exiſtence; for, at his death, 1729, he left a houſe in the Wool-market, to his beloved pariſh, at the rent of twenty pounds per annum. Theſe benefactions reflect a luſtre on his memory, and ſhew that he poſſeſſed an elevated ſoul.

The communion plate was the gift of another of its pious friends, Mr. Robert Rymer. He preſented this church with a large flagon, a chalice, and a ſalver, valued at ſixty pounds, anno 1722.

At the weſt end of the church is another gallery, in which is the organ, erected at the expence of the pariſhioners.

This church had three chantries, all founded by liberal and piouſly diſpoſed men; among whom we find Richard de Emeldon, mayor, Richard de Acton, &c. names ever to be revered by the people of Newcaſtle. They were in honour of, and dedicated to,

1. St. Thomas the Martyr.
2. St. Mary the Bleſſed Virgin.
3. The Holy Trinity.

The intention and uſes of theſe little ſequeſtered chapels have been mentioned before, in our account of St. Nicholas' church. The

The temporalities ariſing to the miniſter of this pariſh are, from the vicar three pounds, from the crown five pounds, and from the corporation for being lecturer ninety pounds.

The ſacrament is adminiſtered on the third Sunday in every month; and prayers three times in the week. At Eaſter the corporation uſed in former times to give fifteen gallons of wine to this church.

There is more painted glaſs remaining in St. John's church, than in any other in the town. The great eaſtern window abounds with ſpecimens, but of too ſmall conſequence to enumerate.

Anno Domini 1762, the church-yard was incloſed by ſubſcription with a brick wall railed above, and planted round in the inſide with lime and elm trees.

Cunningham, the paſtoral poet, was buried here. On his monument is the following inſcription:

Here lie the remains of
JOHN CUNNINGHAM.
Of his excellence
As a paſtoral poet,
His works will remain a monument
For ages,
After this temporary tribute of eſteem
is in duſt forgotten.
He died Sept. 18, 1773, aged 44.

He cull'd the eſſence of ſimplicity,
And arrang'd it in paſtoral verſe.

LEGACIES AND DONATIONS TO THE POOR.

St. John's church being ſituated in the middle of Weſtgate-ſtreet, which has been long the reſidence of the moſt opulent inhabitants, they have not forgotten their brethren, to whom Providence has been leſs liberal. Among the many worthy and re-

ſpectable names, we ſhall, however, only ſelect a few of the principal:

Henry Hilton, Eſq. - -	per annum	£ 4	o o
Sir William Blackett - -	ditto	2	o o
Sir Alexander Daviſon - -	ditto	2	o o
Sir Thomas Daviſon - -	ditto	1	o o
Sir Mark Milbank - - -	ditto	3	o o
Mr. John Rumney - - -	ditto	3	o o

ST. ANDREW's CHURCH.

This church ſtands near New-gate, on the weſt ſide of the ſtreet. From the ſtyle of the architecture, and its ſituation, where old *Monkcheſter* chiefly ſtood, it ſeems to claim priority to the reſt for antiquity.

The old bells were taken down in 1726, and ſix new ones replaced them, by a contribution among the inhabitants, the corporation giving fifty pounds. A new porch was built at the ſame time to the church. At the weſt end is a handſome gallery, erected at the expence of the pariſh in 1711.

Three chantries were founded in it, in honour of

1. St. Mary, the Bleſſed Virgin.
2. The Holy Trinity.
3. St. Thomas.

Theſe chapels contain the remains of many "illuſtrious dead;" among whom are thoſe of Sir Adam de Atholl, knight, and of his lady, with a Latin inſcription.

In the year 1783, the inhabitants purchaſed ſome houſes and waſte ground to enlarge the church-yard, which is walled, palliſadoed round, and planted with trees. A new gallery and veſtry were built at the ſame time. The church was beautified, and the whole,

whole, from the White-croſs, has a cleanly, light appearance.

The miniſter of this church receives annually from the vicar three pounds; from the crown five pounds two ſhillings and ſixpence; and from the corporation, for being lecturer, one hundred pounds. The ſacrament is every fourth Sunday; prayers twice a week. At Eaſter, in former times, ten gallons of wine were given by the corporation.

An organ, purchaſed by a voluntary ſubſcription of the pariſhioners, was erected in this church A. D. 1783; and a ſalary of twenty pounds a year ſettled by the common-council on the organiſt.

The legacies left to the poor of St. Andrew's pariſh are ample and many; among whom are:

Sir Mark Milbank - -	per annum	£. 3	0 0
Henry Hilton, Eſq. - -	ditto	4	0 0
Sir Alexander Daviſon - -	ditto	2	0 0
Dame Jane Clavering - -	ditto	2	10 0
Mrs. Iſabella Wrightſon - -	ditto	2	10 0

The names of many of the curates and lecturers of St. Andrew's have occurred already in the account of St. Nicholas' church; we ſhall therefore omit them here.

Chapels of Eaſe to St. Andrew's Pariſh.

ST. JAMES'S CHAPEL,

Formerly ſtood on the north ſide of the Barrow's or Barras-bridge. It has been long in ruins.

ST. MARY'S CHAPEL AT JESMOND.

This ancient chapel, now alſo in ruins, got the name of Jeſ'mont, *i. e.* Jeſus Mount, or Mount of Jeſus.

There

There yet remains one of the little windows of the hoſpital, in the weſt gable of a public-houſe. The chapel had an aiſle northward, which is now a ſtable! It is itſelf become a barn!

In the 3d of Edward VI. the town of Newcaſtle got a grant of the chapel of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary of Jeſmond, and ſome meſſuages and lands in Jeſmond, under an annual rent of three ſhillings and fourpence.

In the ſame year, the mayor and burgeſſes granted the hoſpital of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary of Jeſmond, with the lands belonging to it, to Sir John Brandling, his heirs and aſſigns, for ever. It is now in the poſſeſſion of William Coulſon, eſq.

St. Mary's Well in this village, which is ſaid to have had as many ſteps down to it as *there are articles in the creed*, was lately incloſed by Mr. Coulſon for a bathing-place, which was no ſooner done, than *the water left it!* The ſuperſtitious people ſuppoſed that this was the immediate vengeance of heaven for the violation of the ſanctity of the place; but the Divine wrath was ſoon ſuſpended; for, lo! the water ſhortly returned into the bathing-place in greater abundance than ever.

From Jeſmond is a delightful proſpect; in turning our eyes up the Ouſe-bourn, we behold the happy effects of induſtry in Buſy-cottage, the property of Mr. Mailin Sorſbie; and further up, in Mr. Yelloley's mill and improvements. To Jeſmond, in a ſummer morning, is one of the ſweeteſt walks in the vicinity of Newcaſtle; and if this pleaſant village has loſt its beauty of imaginary ſanctity, it is amply compenſated by the improvements made there, eſpecially in that little ſpot of ground occupied by Mr. Dewar,

as

URCH

as a common garden, which in a few years, by his induſtry and unwearied attention, he has improved to ſuch a degree of perfection, as to enable him to ſupport a large family in a comfortable manner, although it does not contain quite two acres of land. It is now much reſorted to as a place of recreation during the ſummer, and the viſitors are agreeably accommodated with tea, cider, &c. as well as with the moſt delicious fruits in their ſeaſon.

ALL-SAINTS' OR ALL-HALLOWS' CHURCH.

We enter upon the hiſtory of this church laſt, not becauſe it is of the leaſt importance, but on account of its total renovation; the original church being razed from its foundation, on which it had ſtood for ages; and on its ſite has been erected a *magnificent* religious ſtructure.

As to the origin of its name, Mr. Brand, although he acknowledges that he is ignorant, both of the name and time when this church was firſt built, yet adds, with ſome aſperity, "the conjecture of Grey, in his Chorographia, that this church was dedicated to All-Saints or All-Hallows, from the ancient name of that part of the town, *Pampedon*; which, he adds, was ſo called from the pantheon at Rome, appears to be too ridiculous to deſerve either to be conſidered or confuted."

This unqualified cenſure appears not only to be ſevere, but alſo ill-founded. For, in the ſtructure of the Greek word *Panthēon*, the *δ (delta)* might eaſily ſlip into the inſcription on the temple for the *θ (theta)* thus making the word *Pandeon*, inſtead of *Pantheon*, the name of that part of the town in which All-Saints church was originally built. It is well known, that the

the early Chriſtians adopted ſeveral of the names and cuſtoms of the heathens, both to allure new converts, and not too ſeverely to pain the feelings of ſuch as had but recently adopted the Chriſtian ſyſtem.—Thus the merriments of the Saturnalia, in December, were replaced by others under a religious veil, not leſs voluptuous, or with leſs pageantry, in the feſtival of Chriſtmas.

We may alſo aſſume another derivation which Dean Swift gives us the hint of in his celebrated "Tale of a Tub," where he tells us, that upon the calendar of the ſaints increaſing ſo rapidly, that all the days of the year were inſufficient to give every ſaint a day to himſelf, the conclave of Rome, after very long deliberation, agreed to appropriate one day to the honour of All Saints. So that, if the other three churches were dedicated to St. Nicholas, to St. John, and to St. Andrew, why might not this be dedicated to "All the Saints?"

We know that trifling incidents have given names to things of vaſt importance. When the prime miniſter of England propoſes his plan for applying many millions of money, and his ways and means, to enable him to do it, he is ſaid to "open the budget." This word has ſo puzzled the French politicians, ſome terming it *bouge*, a lantern! others, *poche*, a pocket! that, after all, they were obliged to renounce it, as inexplicable: little knowing that it has an alluſion to a tinker's leathern wallet, which he calls his *budget*, where he keeps the tools with which, when he mends one hole in ſome good unſuſpicious houſewife's pan, he makes two. Mr. Fox ſays, that our ſtate-tinkers have not only ſtruck holes in the national pot, but that they have left it *without a bottom*.

Should

Should neither of the above derivations of the name of All-Saints' church ſatisfy our readers, we will venture at a third. What if the piety of the early Chriſtians ſuggeſted, that the worſhippers of the Moſt High either are, or ought to be, *all ſaints?*---- If "*Procul eſte profani!* Ye impious, keep at a diſtance!" was engraven on the front of the heathen temples, ſuch an inſcription is much more applicable to thoſe of the true God.

The original of this church was at the eaſt ſide of the foot of Pilgrim-ſtreet, on an eminence nearly on a level with St. Mary's, in Gateſhead It was not ſo large as St. Nicholas' church, being only 166 feet in length, and in breadth 77. Its ſtructure was far from commanding admiration, being quite plain, and rather low in proportion to its ſize. It had, for a ſteeple, a low ſquare tower, at the weſt end, with one ſpire, of very indifferent architecture, riſing from the tower. It was adorn'd with a clock, and ſix good bells, which were caſt out of the ſtatue of king James II. as mentioned before.

In ſome of the windows were anciently ſeveral curious portraitures, painted on glaſs; one of our Saviour, at full length, in the ſouth eaſt window, at the eaſt end of the chancel; his twelve apoſtles, in the window neareſt but one to the porch-door; the pious and worthy family of Roger Thornton, two ſons and three daughters, in a devout kneeling poſture, before the altars, in the window above the ſouth door, leading into the choir, towards the porch.---- Moſt of theſe were carried off or defaced, during the tumults of the civil wars.

In the weſt end of the church was a handſome gallery, built in 1712; an organ in the middle; the north

north end devoted to the accommodation of the numerous children of the charity-ſchool. At the eaſt end was another gallery, the property of the company of butchers. There was another built in the north aiſle of the church, by the Trinity-houſe, for the accommodation of mariners, John Holburne maſter, 1618. It was beautified with paintings, in 1720, repreſenting Our Bleſſed Saviour aſleep in a ſtorm; his taking St. Peter by the hand when he was ſinking in the waves; and Jonah vomited up on the dry land.

The chancel ſtood upon a large vault, of a ſquare figure, and ſpacious; a ſtrong pillar in it, which ſupported eight large ſtone arches, the entrance on the north ſide of the church-yard. The altar-table was of marble, the donation of a perſon unknown. On the ſouth ſide of it was a prothefis, or ſide altar. The chancel was adorned with wainſcot ſtalls, after the cathedral ſtile.

There were ſeven chantries belonging to this church, viz.

1. St. Thomas.
2. Our Lady.
3. St. John the Evangeliſt.
4. St. Peter.
5. St. Catherine.
6. St. Loye.
7. John the Baptiſt.

Theſe were early foundations, and well endowed.

That dedicated to St. Peter was founded by Roger de Thornton, oppoſite to the tomb of that worthy man. It was erected about the year 1411, in the reign of Henry IV. with a licence from that prince, that he might be prayed for while he lived; and for his

his ſoul, with that of Agnes his wife, his father and mother, his anceſtors, and alſo his poſterity, with the whole company of the faithful departed.

Monuments formerly in All-Saints Church and Church-Yard.

Of theſe we ſhall ſelect a very few, although this large and populous pariſh had a great many memorials of this melancholy though inſtructive kind.

Oppoſite to the veſtry, on the ſouth ſide of the altar, was a large ſtone raiſed above the level, covered with braſs on the top, on which were cut the effigies of Roger Thornton and his wife, together with his family arms and thoſe of the family of the Lumleys, and alſo the figures of the apoſtles and other ſaints.

When the old church was taken down, the tomb-ſtone of Roger Thornton was carefully taken away, and lodged at Alderman Cramlington's houſe, in Pilgrim-ſtreet.

On the tomb-ſtone of George Bulman, baker and brewer, 1710, is the following epitaph:

Nought can exempt from death's imperious hand,
When it arreſts the ſoul, at God's command:
Each ſtate and ſex, as well the high as low,
Muſt once ſalute the grave, and thither go.

A mural marble monument was fixed on the wall of the church, under which was interred the body of Thomas Wrangham, at that time a famous ſhip-builder in this town: he built forty-five ſail of ſhips; and died of a fever, in the 42d year of his age, May 26, 1689.

He was a man of a moſt generous diſpoſition, of a plain and unaffected converſation, and a ſincere and hearty lover of his friend.

On the chancel was a very large ſtone, inſculptured with braſs, of which, ſeveral year ago, no more could be read than "*Hic tumulatus---dono Dei datus mitis clero---promotor eccleſiarum.*" From this perſon being a great "promoter of churches" it was conjectured that Robert Rhodes was the perſon here buried. However, Robert Rhodes had erected a chantry in St. Nicholas' church, where, moſt probably, he was interred. Mr. Bourne adds, that, whoever it was, from the grandeur of the grave-ſtone, he thinks it muſt have been the burying-place of ſome eminent perſon; and from his being "*promotor eccleſiarum*," that he was alſo religious.--- The effigies were very tall, and ſurrounded with very curious pictures of the ſaints and other emblems, but the braſs and ornaments were decaying faſt. It is a pity, the good man adds, that more care was not taken of this monument, both as it was ornamental to the church, and a memorial of its benefactor. The "promoters of churches" ſhould be always remembered with the moſt grateful reſpect, that they may be ſhining lights to the moſt diſtant ages.

Upon Robert Wallis, formerly clerk of All-Saints:

Here lies Robin Wallis,
The king of good fellows,
Clerk of All-Hallows,
And maker of bellows:
He bellows did make till the day of his death;
But he that made bellows could never make breath.

This being a large and extenſive pariſh, and many wealthy merchants and other opulent people reſiding in it, of conſequence the legacies left to the poor were numerous and liberal; among which were the following:

Mr.

Mr. William Harriſon, hoaſtman	£. 150	0	0
Mr. William Wrightſon - -	50	0	0
Mrs. Margaret Ramſey - -	20	0	0
Mrs. Anne Handcock - - -	50	0	0

The benefactions for the inſtitution of the free-ſchool of All-Saints are very large, of which in its place.

The miniſter of this church is paid four pounds by the vicar, and five pounds by the crown, annually; the reſt of his income ariſes from his ſurplice-fees, regiſters, &c.

Here are two lecturers, allowed each one hundred pounds per annum by the corporation. Formerly they were preſented with twenty-one gallons of wine at Eaſter by the ſame. Sacrament every ſecond Sunday in the month; prayers every day twice, morning and afternoon.

LECTURERS OF ALL-SAINTS.

Robert Jenniſon, S. T. P. was lecturer in this church in the year 1622. In 1639 he was ſuſpended for non-conformity; but was afterwards reſtored to his ſacred functions, and appointed vicar of St. Nicholas.

Dr. Wiſhart ſucceeded Dr. Jenniſon, by order of king Charles I. to this lectureſhip.

1641, Mr. William Morton was invited to be paſtor of this church. "He was (ſays the manuſcript Life of Barnes) a very worthy man; he left Newcaſtle, went into the parliament's army, and was choſen one of the divines in the celebrated aſſembly at Weſtminſter."

Mr. John Durant was appointed morning lecturer of All-Saints, along with Mr. Richard Prideaux, anno. 1647.

1647. He wrote certain ſermons on the Woman of Canaan, or the Trial and Triumph of Faith, and dedicated them to the magiſtrates, miniſters, and inhabitants of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, thanking them for their ſingular reſpect to his dear brother William Durant, who was carrying on the work of the goſpel among them in that town. *Granger's Biographical Hiſtory, v.* ii. *p.* 27.

William Durant married the ſiſter of Sir James Clavering, bart.

Anno 1663, Mr. Thomas Daviſon was appointed lecturer of All-Saints, with a ſalary of one hundred and fifty pounds per annum. He is, ſays the biographer Wood, ſuppoſed to have publiſhed a ſermon on "The Fall of Angels," preached before the mayor and magiſtrates of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, 1685, 4to.

April 24, 1761, Hugh Moiſes, A. M. morning lecturer. The common-council, on giving him this appointment, politely added, that "Mr. Moiſes was appointed to this lectureſhip as an acknowledgment of his good ſervices to the grammar-ſchool of the town, and that it was a ſmall reward for his eminent induſtry, and the exertion of his very diſtinguiſhed abilities."

CURATES OF ALL-SAINTS.

This is reputed one of the largeſt cures in the kingdom; but we will not trouble our readers with a detailed liſt of the names of all who have filled that office.

A. D. 1380, John de Harpham is named as curate in this church.

Robert Croft, in the year 1407, was appointed curate.

After

After a ſucceſſion of many others, we find,

A. D. 1708, Cuthbert Elliſon, M. A. choſen curate, and afterwards removed to the vicarage of Stannington. He was the author of two ſermons, entitled "The Babler;" alſo of a paſtoral between Corydon and Thyrſis, and another little pleaſant piece, named "A Trip to Benwell." 8vo.

Henry Bourne, A. M. ſucceeded in 1722. He was author of "Antiquitates Vulgares," and "The Hiſtory of Newcaſtle." As this work is in many hands, and is upon the whole an informing book on the ſubject, we ſhall add a few notes reſpecting the life of this reverend author. Gyll's interleaved copy of Bourne's Hiſtory ſays, that "Henry Bourne was the ſon of a taylor, and, after ſome time ſpent at ſchool, was bound an apprentice to a glazier in the Side, in Newcaſtle; but, diſcovering a diſpoſition towards letters, was, after he had lived two or three years with his maſter, emancipated from his ſervice, again ſent to ſchool, and from thence he was removed by the aid of ſome perſons who knew him, and admitted a ſizar, about the year 1720, at Cambridge; where obtaining orders, he was appointed curate of this church, in which place he remained till his death in the year 1733.

THE NEW CHURCH.

The occaſion of building this handſome ſtructure is ſet forth in the preamble to the act of parliament as follows:

"Whereas the church or parochial chapel of the pariſh of All-Saints, in the town and county of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, and which pariſh extends into the county of Northumberland, is a very ancient building, and is become ſo decayed and ruinous, that

that it is unſafe for the pariſhioners to attend divine ſervice therein; and it is neceſſary the ſame ſhould be taken down, and a new church built, and alſo that the cemetry, or church-yard, which is too ſmall, ſhould be enlarged, and proper avenues made thereto; and whereas, for the purpoſes aforeſaid, it will be neceſſary to purchaſe certain lands, houſes, or tenements; may it therefore pleaſe your majeſty," &c. &c.

In conſequence of the above, an advertiſement was inſerted in the Newcaſtle papers, for plans of a church capable of holding fifteen hundred people. The candidates were, Mr. Stephenſon, of this town, Mr. Harriſon, of Lancaſter, and ſome others. As the conteſt lay between theſe two gentlemen, a ſhort deſcription of their plans, (made by a friend to ſcience at the time) may not be out of place.

He begins by obſerving, that he thinks he has ſeen the ſenographical, or ground part of both, at Rome, being that of two noble ſtructures in that Miſtreſs of the fine arts.

The plan of Mr. Harriſon, he obſerves, is a ſemicircle; before the chord-line of which is a portico of four Doric columns, ſupporting a pediment, on the two extremities of which is a ſmall minaret or ſteeple.

Mr. Stephenſon's plan is an elipſe, with a colonade of coupled columns, of the Ionic order, the length of the whole ſouth front; over the colonade an attic, from which riſes a dome.

It is the fartheſt from our wiſh to give offence to theſe gentlemen, (who have ariſen to eminence in their profeſſion) as the fine remains of Grecian and Roman architecture are conſidered as the pureſt ſource from which the preſent artiſts can take their ideas.

We ſhall now proceed to deſcribe the church, as it

it is finiſhed, the plan having been conſiderably altered from what was at firſt intended.

This truly grand church is conſtructed in a ſtile very different from the ancient Gothic churches. It is of a circular form, adorned, quite round, with ornamental architecture, exceedingly beautiful and rich. —The front is towards the ſouth, and ſet off with a grand colonade, ſupporting a porch lofty and ſpacious, with ſuperb columns of the Ionic order. A ſteeple or ſpire riſes above the front, nearly of a height with St. Nicholas' ſteeple, but conſtructed in a different manner. It gradually riſes from the ſquare tower, or baſe, by ſeveral ſtages of moſt beautiful pillars, and terminates by a large gilded vane.

The ſteeple is adorned with a clock, made by Mr. Thwaites, of London, and of ſuch ingenious workmanſhip as to excite univerſal admiration. It has three dial-plates, with gnomons and hour-figures, richly gilded, ſo large as may be ſeen at a great diſtance. In the front, the hours are diſtinctly ſeen from Gateſhead. It chimes every quarter of an hour, repeating the number of quarters after the hour.

The ſet of bells were caſt on purpoſe, in London; and being formed of the beſt proportion of metals, their ſound is ſweet and harmonious, and they are capable of ringing a great variety of changes.

The maſon-work was conducted by Mr. Thompſon, and the carpentry-work by Mr. Peter Paxton.

In ſhort, this church is one of the moſt ſtriking reſemblances of the Grecian and Roman architecture, is a chief ornament in the modern improvements of Newcaſtle, and will be, for ages, a proof of the good taſte and munificence of the pariſhioners of that pariſh. The expence (which is ſaid to be great) in building this

this new church, was raiſed by a poundage, according to the above act of Parliament, upon the inhabitants of the pariſh.

There is a beautiful area, ſown with graſs, and planted with poplar and other ornamental trees, with a border of flowering ſhrubs, which give a lightneſs and elegance to the whole building.

The church-yard is eaſtward from the church; it is full of tomb-ſtones, inſcribed to the memory of many of the firſt characters in Newcaſtle, both of ancient and modern times. It is ſupported, on the eaſt and north, by a wall of vaſt height.

Chapel of Eaſe to All-Saints.

ST. ANN'S

Stands in the vicinity of Sandgate-ſtreet, on a gentle declivity. After the reformation, it was neglected and fell into decay, but was repaired in 1682. A lecturer was then appointed, who was to preach every Sunday morning, and expound the cathechiſm in the afternoon, for which he was to have thirty pounds per annum. At preſent it has two lecturers, one allowed forty, and the other fifty pounds per annum, by the corporation. This chapel was rebuilt by Mr. Newton, architect, with the ſtones of the old wall which formerly ran along the Quay-ſide. The deſign is plain, with a light ſteeple, and a good clock. It was conſecrated by biſhop Trevor in 1768, having been built and endowed by the corporation.

Dr. Fawcett preached and publiſhed the conſecration ſermon.

From the firſt preacher in this chapel, Mr. John Rawlett, in 1682, to the preſent, the Rev. Moſes Manners,

ners, A. M. is a conſiderable liſt of names, many of them reſpectable for their learning and talents.

DISSENTING MEETING-HOUSES.

The Diſſenters in this populous town are numerous and reſpectable.

Adjoining to Tuthill-ſtairs, near the top, is a new and handſome chapel, lately erected. The congregation are of the Particular or Calviniſtic Baptiſt perſuaſion. They have a large reſervoir for the immerſion of their members in receiving the rite of baptiſm; with a neat and capacious veſtry, where they have ſermon on week-day evenings. The name of the preſent miniſter is Mr. Cracherode.

In Hanover-ſquare is a large and well-built chapel for Unitarian Diſſenters: the Rev. William Turner is the preſent miniſter. In the veſtry, which has been lately built, is an excellent library, of ſome extent, for the uſe of the congregation. This ſociety has ſubſiſted during more than a century, and has been ſerved by many eminent men. Though uſually claſſed under the denomination of Preſbyterians, it is believed they never exerciſed the preſbyterian diſcipline, or joined any other ſocieties in forming a claſs or ſynod, or ever preſcribed any creed or confeſſion as a term of communion among themſelves.

Near the old caſtle is a meeting of the church of Scotland, of long ſtanding; the preſent miniſter's name is the Rev. David Gellatly.

In Poſtern-ſtreet is another old meeting houſe, of the ſame deſcription of diſſenters, which is opened occaſionally.

Nearly oppoſite the laſt-mentioned, is a new and elegant chapel, lately built. The congregation is of

lady Huntingdon's (or lady Ann Erſkine's) denomination, originally founded by the late celebrated George Whitfield, A. M.---Mr. Lee, a native of this town, is at preſent miniſter. Before the building of this chapel, they occupied, for many years, the old meeting-houſe laſt mentioned.

In the Groat-market is a meeting-houſe of Preſbyterians; the Rev. David M'Indoe, miniſter.

In the High Bridge is another large Preſbyterian meeting-houſe; the Rev. John Hutton, miniſter.

In Silver-ſtreet is a numerous congregation of Preſbyterians; the Rev. Adam Laidlaw, miniſter.

At the head of the Wall Knoll is a Preſbyterian meeting; the preſent miniſter's name is Mr. Robertſon.

Without Sally Port is another Preſbyterian meeting-houſe, for Seceders of the Burgher perſuaſion; the Rev. John Smith, miniſter.

On the Garth-heads is another Preſbyterian meeting-houſe; the Rev. Robert Cowan, miniſter.

In the Cloſe is a Preſbyterian meeting-houſe, for Seceders of the Antiburgher perſuaſion; the Rev. William Syme, miniſter.

Cloſe by the opening of the town-wall for the new paſſage, half way down from the Carpenter's Tower, is a ſmall ſociety of diſſenters from the church of Scotland, which, from adopting the tenets of the late John Glaſs, are called Glaſſites. Their ſpeakers are various.

There are three Methodiſt chapels; one in Northumberland-ſtreet, another in Manor-chare, called Bethel, of the New Itinerancy; a third on the New Road, near Egypt granaries.

In Pilgrim-ſtreet, nearly oppoſite to Moſley-ſtreet, is a meeting-houſe for the people called Quakers.

There

There are two Roman Catholic chapels in Newcaſtle; one in Pilgrim-ſtreet, oppoſite the High-bridge, Rev. Mr. Worſwick, miniſter; the other at the foot of Weſtgate-ſtreet, the Rev. Mr. Warilow, miniſter.

We may ſum up the different claſſes of Diſſenters, and cloſe our account of Religious Inſtitutions, in the words of an able correſpondent of the Monthly Magazine: vol. xi. p. 310.

"Six congregations of Preſbyterians, properly ſo called, united in doctrine, diſcipline, and communion with the church of Scotland; and one of each of the claſſes of the ſeceſſion from that church, ſtiled Burghers and Antiburghers: a numerous and reſpectable body of Unitarian worſhippers: a congregation of Independents, and another of Particular or Calviniſtic Baptiſts: two large ſocieties of the old Weſtleian Methodiſts; and one connected with the New Itinerancy, commonly called Kilhamites, who are very numerous. There are alſo two Roman Catholic chapels, a numerous and reſpectable body of Friends, commonly called Quakers; and a few worthy perſons attached to the tenets of Mr. John Glaſs, whence they are uſually denominated Glaſſites.

"All theſe live together, on the whole, very peaceably; and while they maintain, with ſufficient zeal, their reſpective tenets and modes, they can often, with great harmony, join with each other in plans for the public benefit, either in a charitable or a literary way; and as ſeldom, perhaps, as any where, diſturb either public or private peace by the violence of their diſputes on their ſeveral diſtinctions.

"Such would, doubtleſs, be the caſe univerſally, if

men were left to the *free exerciſe of their reaſon in matters of religion*, and ſo much needleſs pains were not taken by thoſe in power to "prevent diverſity of opinions," a thing impoſſible among creatures of ſuch limited powers, expoſed to ſuch a variety of influences, from birth, education, and connections in life. That kind of Chriſtian knowledge which is the reſult of free enquiry, is indeed the only ground that can be ſecurely relied on as the foundation of a conſiſtent and virtuous conduct. On various ſpeculative points there cannot be a unity of faith, but in the bonds of ignorance and preſumption; but, amidſt great diverſity of opinions, there may be a "unity of the ſpirit in the bond of peace," which is all that Chriſtianity requires."

BALLAST-HILLS BURYING GROUND.

This place is principally appropriated to the uſe of Diſſenters, though (the expence of interment being lower) the poor of the eſtabliſhed church are likewiſe frequently buried here. It is one of the largeſt pieces of ground devoted to this melancholy ſervice we can meet with almoſt any where, Bunhill-fields burying-ground, in London, alone excepted. There are from twelve to eighteen, and ſometimes double that number, brought here weekly. A regiſter of the dead interred in this place is kept by the corporation. It was formerly unincloſed; but, on account of frequent depredations, both by man and beaſt, being the ſubject of much complaint, it was, a few years ago, encompaſſed by a ſtone wall, built by public ſubſcription.

MONU-

MONUMENTS IN THE BALLAST-HILLS.

On a table-monument is the following inſcription:

In memory of the late Rev. ALEX. NIMMO, miniſter in the Cloſe, Newcaſtle. Obiit 5th February, 1770, in the 18th year of his miniſtry, aged 44.

How vain th' attempt to celebrate on ſtone
His character: his hearers hearts alone
Are monuments, which longer ſhall proclaim
His praiſe, than marble, rock, or ſhort-liv'd fame.

Here are depoſited the remains of four of his children, viz. Chriſtian, Margaret, Helen, and Alexander.

Lo, here mix in one grave, the duſt
Of father, ſon, and ſire:
Their kindred ſouls adorn'd with crowns,
To heavenly ſongs conſpire.

On an upright ſtone:

Here lies the body of the Rev. JAMES ROBERTSON, miniſter of the goſpel in Sallyport-meeting; who departed this life Sept. 23, 1767, aged 39 years.

Ambitious not of man's, but God's applauſe;
Modeſt yet reſolute in virtue's cauſe.
Swift was his race, with health and vigour bleſt;
Soft was his paſſage to the land of reſt.

PUBLIC CHARITIES.

CHARITY-SCHOOL OF ST. NICHOLAS.

This mode of benefiting mankind is the moſt laudable and ſubſtantial of almoſt all others. The primary intention of erecting charity ſchools was to defeat the pernicious effects of the ſeminaries ſet up by the papiſts, during the ſhort and inglorious reign of that furious bigot, James II. about the year 1688.

But the power of Rome, by the glorious revolution, falling into contempt, the generous and humane, perceiving the happy effects of ſuch uſeful inſtitutions, not only continued their aſſiſtance when the fears of popery had ſubſided, but encreaſed their number and their means of ſupport; and it reflects no ſmall degree of luſtre upon the times in which we live, that there is ſcarcely a town or village where we may not find charity ſchools, in which numbers of poor, fatherleſs, friendleſs orphans are carefully inſtructed in the moſt neceſſary branches of uſeful education.

This honourable and laudable foundation in St. Nicholas had its exiſtence from the pious benevolence of a worthy lady, Mrs. Eleanor Allan, of Newcaſtle, who founded this ſchool February 20th, 1705, for the education of forty boys and twenty girls, born in the pariſh, and in the chapelry of St. John.

Effectually to endow this charity, Mrs. Allan, by her deed of gift, dated as above, aſſigned a farmhold and tenant-right in Wall's End, of the yearly value of ſixty-one pounds nineteen ſhillings and five-

pence,

pence, to the truſtees in truſt to herſelf for life, and after her death, for ſetting up a ſchool for teaching forty boys and twenty girls, in the ſaid pariſh of St. Nicholas. The boys are taught reading, writing, and accompts, and after that are put out by the truſtees to ſome trade or handicraft, or to ſea, and have forty ſhillings a piece for that purpoſe, with a Bible and Prayer-book bound together, a Whole Duty of Man, and Lewis's Explanation of the Catechiſm.

The girls are taught to read, write, ſew, and knit, and then apprenticed out or put to ſervice, and have twenty ſhillings allowed them, with the ſame books as the boys.

The maſter's ſalary is twenty-five pounds per annum, and twenty ſhillings for coals. That of the miſtreſs is ten pounds per annum, and ten ſhillings for coals.

The pariſhioners were ſo well pleaſed with the uſefulneſs of this foundation, and the progreſs made by the ſcholars, that they entered into an annual ſubſcription to cloath, decently, the children of the ſchool.

Liberal and ample acceſſions were made to this endowment from various quarters.

A. D. 1723, Mr. Gilbert Campbell, innholder, left by will the ſum of twenty pounds, and Mr. Samuel Nichols, organiſt, ten pounds, to be put out at intereſt for the benefit of this ſchool.

Mrs. Chiſholm, relict of the reverend Mr. Chiſholm, of Wooler, bequeathed it for ever the intereſt of five hundred pounds.

A. D. 1738, John Hewit, goldſmith, left it by will the ſum of two hundred and fifty pounds, which

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was lent to the corporation of Newcaſtle, at four per cent.

John Fenwick, eſq. of Newcaſtle, gave in perpetuity fifty pounds to the corporation, for the annual payment of twenty ſhillings to the charity ſchool of St. Nicholas, and twenty ſhillings to the priſoners in Newgate, to be made ſeven days before Chriſtmas for ever.

A. D. 1786, the corporation of Newcaſtle built a new charity ſchool for this pariſh in Manor-chare. It has a fine front towards the ſtreet, well lighted and aired, having more the appearance of the dwelling-houſe of ſome wealthy family, than that of a ſeminary for charity children. The more credit is due on that account to the worthy patrons of the inſtitution.

ST. JOHN's CHARITY-SCHOOL.

This was founded and endowed in the year 1705; but the name of the munificent founder was then unknown; nor was it diſcovered till after the death of that worthy character, Mr. John Ord, who was the perſon, and who had entruſted the late Dr. Thomlinſon alone with the ſecret. This gentleman did not diſcloſe it, agreeable to his engagement, till after Mr. Ord's deceaſe.

This charity ſchool is for forty-four boys, but no girls. For its ſupport Mr. Ord bequeathed a large field, called Great Magdalen-cloſe, or Mill-cloſe, without Pilgrim-ſtreet Gate. The cloſe was let in Mr. Bourne's time at twenty-five pounds per annum, but probably lets now at double that ſum.

In the year 1707, Mrs. Margaret Allgood, widow, bequeathed one hundred pounds to be put out at intereſt for the benefit of St. John's charity ſchool; and

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an annual ſubſcription of thirty-three pounds fourteen ſhillings is alſo raiſed for its maintenance.

There is likewiſe an anniverſary ſermon preached for the benefit of the ſchool, which is generally productive.

The boys are annually cloathed, and have ſhoes and ſtockings twice a year.

The ſchool-houſe was built and is kept in repair by the corporation. The maſter's ſalary is twenty-four pounds per annum, forty ſhillings for teaching the boys church muſic, and ſixteen ſhillings a year for paper, pens, and ink.

The patrons of the ſchool are, the heir of Mr. Ord, the mayor of Newcaſtle, the vicar, the lecturers of All-Saints, St. John's, and St. Andrew's, or any five of them, to chooſe a maſter for the ſchool.

The private benefactions to this charity are:

Lady Clavering - - -	per annum	£. 2	2 0
Mrs. Swinburn - - - -	ditto	1	0 0
George Grey, Eſq. - - -	ditto	1	0 0

with ſeveral others: and the following ſixteen companies one pound each:

Bakers and Brewers	Rope-makers
Taylors	Smiths
Barber-Surgeons	Joiners
Sadlers	Slaters
Glaziers	Butchers
Cordwainers	Bricklayers
Tanners	Hatters
Houſe-Carpenters	Weavers

CHARITY-SCHOOL OF ST. ANDREW.

The charity-ſchool of this pariſh was founded by Sir William Blackett, baronet. It is for thirty boys,

and was firſt opened in the year 1708. A. D. 1719. Sir William Blackett, baronet, ſon of the founder of the ſchool, ordered cloathing for the ſcholars.

The maſter's ſalary is twenty pounds per annum. The patrons for chooſing a maſter are, the vicar and the churchwardens of the pariſh.

A. D. 1792, a handſome ſchool-houſe was built without Newgate, by ſubſcription, for girls, and a gallery was alſo erected for them in the ſouth porch of the church.

CHARITY-SCHOOL or ALL-SAINTS.

This uſeful foundation was raiſed by a voluntary ſubſcription, in the year 1709. It is for forty-one boys, and ſeventeen girls. The boys are taught to read, write, and caſt accounts; the girls to read, write, knit, ſew, and make and mend their own cloaths.

The ſubſcribers are very numerous, and many of the donations liberal and ample; but our limits preclude the inſertion of all the names: among others,

Walter Blackett, eſq. -	per annum	£. 5	0 0
Nicholas Fenwick, eſq. - -	ditto -	7	0 0
The whole ſum was	£. 783	12	0

CHARITY-SCHOOL of ST. ANN's CHAPEL.

This ſchool ſtands at the eaſt end of Sandgate, in the corner of the field adjacent to the chapel. It is a large, airy, light room; has two maſters, and a great number of ſcholars.

SUNDAY

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The benevolent Father of All has raiſed up and qualified ſome diſtinguiſhed characters to promote the beſt intereſts of mankind in every age. SOCRATES, in one part of the pagan world, taught with unwearied zeal, in the forum, in the temples, in the ſtreets of Athens, the moſt noble of all ſciences, the ſcience of morals, and, by his ſublime precepts, formed the moſt renowned characters of antiquity; enlightening the ſoaring minds of Plato, of the Stagyrite, aud many others, whoſe writings ſtill continue to charm and inſtruct the world; and his ſole reward was, *a conſciouſneſs of doing good:* whilſt CONFUCIUS exerted equally an unwearied zeal in the eaſtern regions, whoſe whole doctrine tended "to reſtore human nature to its former luſtre, and that firſt beauty it had received from heaven, which (he ſaid) had been ſullied by the darkneſs of ignorance and the contagion of vice."

In modern times, when we behold a HOWARD, whoſe breaſt flowed with the milk of human kindneſs, traverſing the globe, and ranſacking loathſome gaols, to pour the oil and wine of conſolation into the wounds of the ſolitary priſoner, which misfortune, defect of moral principle, or relentleſs cruelty, had, with unpitying hands, inflicted;—we are tranſported with the emotions of admiration, and almoſt ready to think his "Hiſtory of Priſons" a pleaſing illuſion! More recently, another philanthropiſt has ſtept forward with a plan, the beſt calculated that the mind of man ever conceived, for preventing future Howards from being employed in alleviating the fatal effects of ignorance, and of depraved morals, and thus diſarming the hand of ſtern juſtice;

we mean Mr. RAIKES, of Glouceſter, with his excellent inſtitution of SUNDAY SCHOOLS. Here, during the intervals of divine worſhip, on Sunday, youth are taught, with care and aſſiduity, the firſt principles of learning and of religion. It is here that into their tender minds are inſtilled, without expence, thoſe primary, thoſe moſt noble principles, which, when they "ripen into man," influence their whole lives, and pervade their moral and civil conduct. The patrons of theſe benevolent inſtitutions are ſome of the moſt exalted and virtuous characters in the kingdom. "Biſhop Auckland is a beautiful place," ſaid a gentleman lately; "but the moſt enchanting ſight to me was, on a Sunday morning, the preſent lord biſhop of Durham, and his lady, plainly dreſſed, aſſiduouſly attending, and inſtructing perſonally a numerous Sunday School!"--*Newcaſtle Courant, May* 1801.

Nor are the happy effects of this humane and highly uſeful plan more viſible in any town in England than in Newcaſtle. Inſtead of ſeeing our ſtreets ſwarming with the offspring of penury, indolence, or vice, with minds untutored, and faſt receiving the impreſſion of evil habits, we behold, with emotions of heart-felt complacency, long proceſſions of youths preceded by their inſtructors, and attended by gentlemen eminent for their virtues and active ſtations in life, walking along to worſhip the MOST HIGH, in our Chriſtian temples. The bleſſings of thouſands, ready to periſh "*through lack of knowledge*," muſt, while virtue and learning enlighten the world, attend Mr. Raikes!

Theſe ſchools are now confined to no ſect or party of Chriſtians. The four pariſh churches, and ſeveral diſ-

diſſenting meeting-houſes, have opened them, and particularly at the chapel of the Rev. William Turner, in Hanover-ſquare, there are two, one for boys, the other for girls, which were the firſt eſtabliſhed in this town, (in December 1784) and have been in general well regulated and ſucceſsful. One circumſtance attended to in the management of the boys' ſchool appears worthy of imitation; viz. that thoſe who have behaved well in this are uſually choſen to fill up the vacancies, as they fall out, in the regular charity-ſchool ſupported by the ſame ſociety.

The people denominated *Methodiſts*, in Newcaſtle, who are laudably active in whatever concerns the intereſts of religion and of morals, employ zeal and aſſiduity in inſtructing their very numerous Sunday ſchool.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

In a large commercial town, ſuch as Newcaſtle, where trade is carried on to a vaſt extent, not only at home, but with foreign countries, a knowledge of accompts is altogether neceſſary, in order to tranſact buſineſs with certainty and promptitude; and as capital to a large amount is in continual circulation in Newcaſtle, what intereſts *debtor* and *creditor* ought to be well known. It is, therefore, but doing juſtice to that uſeful claſs of men (ſchool-maſters) to ſay, that the town is well provided with able and diligent teachers, in the various branches of literature and ſcience; *viz.*

Rev. W. Turner	Barras-bridge.
Rev. E. Prowitt	Pilgrim-ſtreet.
Mr. Dryſdale	Trinity-houſe.
Mr. Somerville	Pilgrim-ſtreet.
Mr. Kay	Pilgrim-ſtreet.

Mr.

Mr. Maule - - -	Weſtgate-ſtreet.
Mr. Thompſon - -	Pilgrim-ſtreet.
Mr. Brown - - -	Bigg-market.
Mr. Murray - - -	Denton-chare.
Mr. Clarke - - -	High-bridge.
Mr. Tinwell - - -	Roſemary-lane.
Mr. Richardſon - -	St. Nicholas' Church-yard.
Mr. Aſkew - - -	Spital.
Mr. Falconar - - -	Roſemary-lane.
Mr. G. Richardſon - -	High Friar-ſtreet.
Mr. Nicholſon - - -	Forth Houſe.
Mr. Kerr - - -	Weſtgate-ſtreet.
Meſſrs. Brown and Co. - -	St. Ann's, New Road.
Mr. Robſon (Catholic Chapel)	Pilgrim-ſtreet.
Mr. Charlton - - -	Caſtle-garth.
Mr. Crawford - - -	Sally-port Meeting-houſe.

The firſt two are boarding-ſchools: there are alſo other ſchools of leſs note.

DANCING-MASTERS.

Mr. Banks - - -	High-bridge.
Mr. Kinloch - - -	Bigg-market.
Mr. Mackintoſh - - -	Nungate.

SCHOOL-MISTRESSES.

To form the manners, to inſtruct and accompliſh the ſofter ſex in the uſeful and ornamental branches of education, requires a large ſhare of acquaintance with the human heart, and no leſs ſkill and addreſs.

There are ſeveral ſchool-miſtreſſes in Newcaſtle, who all excel in their profeſſion. The ladies who make the moſt conſpicuous figure are the following; *viz.*

Mrs. Wilſon - - -	Saville-row.
Mrs. Smith - - -	Weſtgate-ſtreet.
Mrs. Waters - - -	Pilgrim-ſtreet.
Miſs Kitteridge - - -	Pilgrim-ſtreet.
Mrs. Bateman - - -	Pilgrim-ſtreet.

Miſs

Miſs Bonnel - - -	Pilgrim-ſtreet.
Mrs. Hymers - - -	Darn-crook.
Mrs. Taylor - - -	Newgate-ſtreet.
Miſs Hogg - - - -	Newgate-ſtreet
Miſs Yelloley - - -	Newgate-ſtreet.
Mrs. Skinner - - -	Newgate-ſtreet.
Mrs. Dikus - - -	Pilgrim-ſtreet
Miſs Richardſon - - -	Cloſe.
Miſs Neale - - -	Silver-ſtreet.
Meſdms. Donaldſon and Co.	Dean-ſtreet.

The firſt ſix are boarding-ſchools, which, with the others, are all well patronized. Their boarders and pupils are taught, with aſſiduity and ſucceſs, the various branches of education. And although the young ladies are indulged ſometimes in attending faſhionable amuſements, yet their governeſſes accompany them on theſe occaſions, with indulgence indeed, but alſo with circumſpection. It is certainly impoſſible to employ too much attention in forming the female mind; as future domeſtic felicity depends very frequently on the early impreſſions received at boarding and other ſchools.

The principal ſeminaries for young ladies are attended by writing, dancing, and drawing-maſters, all eminent in their profeſſions.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,

In the Old Aſſembly-Rooms, Groat-Market.

The numerous ſocieties for the promotion of literature and philoſophy which have been formed in different parts of Europe in the courſe of the two laſt centuries, have not only been the means of diffuſing knowledge more extenſively, but have contributed to produce a greater number of important diſcoveries than have been effected in any other equal ſpace of time. The progreſs that has been made in phyſics and the belles lettres, owes its rapidity, if not its origin, to the encouragement which theſe ſocieties have given to ſuch purſuits, and to the emulation which has been excited between different academical bodies, as well as among the individual members of ſuch inſtitutions. The collecting and publiſhing the more important communications which have been delivered to them, have ſaved from oblivion many very valuable diſcoveries or improvements in the arts, and much uſeful information in the various branches of ſcience.

It is obvious that Newcaſtle is a ſituation peculiarly well adapted for a literary inſtitution, not only as it poſſeſſes extraordinary advantages for the cultivation of mineral knowledge, in the inveſtigation of its two great natural exports, coal and lead, with their various accompanying ſtrata and matrices, offering ſo wide a field for the application of mechanical inventions

tions to the working of the mines and the conveyance of their products; but alſo as it affords peculiar advantages for chemical inveſtigation, for the eſtabliſhment and improvement of the various manufactures and arts which depend upon the plenty and cheapneſs of fuel, and the facility of receiving and tranſmitting their ſeveral materials and products, by an extenſive commercial intercourſe; and conſequently as this very intercourſe furniſhes the curious enquirer with the opportunity of carrying on an extenſive literary correſpondence, and of collecting from every country its important or intereſting productions The ample field, too, which is here ſtill open to the reſearches of the antiquary and hiſtorian, muſt be obvious to every reader of the former part of this work.

Theſe, and other circumſtances having been ſtated at conſiderable length, in a paper printed and circulated in December, 1792, under the title of "Speculations on a Literary Society," a meeting was held at the Aſſembly Rooms, January 24, 1793; where a committee was appointed to prepare a plan for the formation and government of ſuch a ſociety: which being preſented to a more general meeting, at the Diſpenſary, February 7, (the Rev. Edward Moiſes, M. A. in the chair) was unanimouſly approved; and John Widdrington, Eſq. was elected the firſt preſident.

The ſociety continued to meet in the Governors'-Hall of the Diſpenſary, till the adoption of Mr. Moiſes' propoſal for the eſtabliſhment of a general library; when it became neceſſary to engage apartments for their excluſive uſe. Theſe were at firſt taken in St. Nicholas' church-yard; but the Old Aſſembly-rooms in the Groat-market falling vacant,

the ſociety removed thither in 1798; and are likely to continue in apartments which afford them ſuch ſuitable and convenient accommodation.

On the death of Mr. Widdrington, in 1798, Sir J. E. Swinburne, bart. was elected preſident, who continues to fill that office with great advantage to the ſociety.

This ſociety is compoſed of the following claſſes, viz. 1. Ordinary members, who ſubſcribe one guinea annually; to whom is confined the whole management of the buſineſs of the ſociety, and the election of officers and members. 2. Honorary members, who reſide at a diſtance, and correſpond with the ſociety, but are not liable to any expence. 3. Honorary members, with the privileges of ordinary ones. Only four of this deſcription are allowed at one time. The intention of the ſociety in inſtituting this claſs was for the laudable purpoſe of encouraging the exertions of deſerving perſons who diſcover a taſte for literature, but whoſe circumſtances render it inconvenient to incur the expence of the ordinary contribution. Of this laſt claſs there are at preſent three members: of the firſt claſs, about three hundred; of the ſecond, upwards of one hundred and eighty. ---To this number another new claſs was inſtituted, in the year 1799, under the denomination of reading members, who do not attend the meetings of the ſociety, but have the uſe of the library; to which claſs ladies are eligible.

The ſociety is governed by a preſident, four vice-preſidents, two ſecretaries, and a committee of eight; all choſen annually out of the claſs of ordinary members. To theſe are entruſted the expenditure of the funds, the ordering of books, and the domeſtic economy of the inſtitution.

The

The general meetings of the ſociety are held in the evening of the firſt Tueſday of every month. The ſubjects for their converſation and inveſtigation comprehend the mathematics, natural philoſophy and hiſtory, chemiſtry, polite literature, antiquities, civil hiſtory, biography, queſtions of general law and policy, commerce, and the arts; but religion, the practical branches of law and phyſic, Britiſh politics, and indeed all politics of the day, are ſubjects directly prohibited by a very ſtrong clauſe in their regulations.

A large and valuable library is already collected, and the funds for increaſing it are ſo conſiderable, that it may be expected, in a few years, to comprehend every work of importance on the various ſubjects which come within the plan of the ſociety.---- Amongſt the books lately added to the library is that learned and extenſive work, the Encyclopedie Methodique, now publiſhing in Paris, 238 volumes of which are juſt finiſhed. Beſides the ordinary funds for the purchaſe of books, many intereſting works have been preſented to the ſociety. The magazines, reviews, and moſt periodical publications of merit, lie on the reading table, for the uſe of the members who daily reſort thither. The librarian attends ſix hours every day, (Sunday excepted) viz. from twelve till three o'clock in the afternoon, and again from ſix to nine in the evening.

The cabinet of the ſociety contains many curioſities, both of nature and art, from different quarters of the globe; to particularize which would greatly exceed our limits; ſufficice it to mention a few.---- A rich variety of foſſil and mineral productions, with a curious collection of gold, ſilver, quickſilver, and lead ores and ſpars. A ſection of the ſtrata of the

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low main coal of St. Anthony's colliery, which is 135 fathoms and one quarter in depth; and a ſection of the ſtrata ſouth of the main dike in Montagu main colliery; with ſpecimens of each, methodically arranged: alſo ſections of ſtrata in Denton and Pontop Pike collieries, with ſpecimens. A large collection of ſpecimens of the ſeveral hard and ſoft coals in the counties of Nottingham and Derby, and of the ſtrata accompanying them. Alſo a ſection of ſtrata met with in working the lead mines of Alſton Moor and Dufton Fell, in the counties of Cumberland and Weſtmoreland, to the depth of 241 fathom 1 foot, with a large collection of ſpecimens, illuſtrative of the products of the lead-mine diſtricts. Several ſpecimens of cloth made by the natives of the South Sea iſlands from the bark of trees, with their dreſſes, implements of war, &c. A collection of coins, medals, &c. &c.

The purchaſe of a philoſophical and chemical apparatus, and the collection of a cabinet of natural hiſtory, are alſo in contemplation. The completion of theſe objects cannot fail to have the moſt beneficial effects on the minds of the riſing generation; for whoſe benefit, in the mean time, the ſociety has always ſhewn itſelf ready to forward any plans for public inſtruction, particularly by the encouragement of lecturers in chemiſtry and experimental philoſophy.

Although, in ſome important reſpects, this excellent inſtitution has not had all the ſucceſs which its members might reaſonably have expected, particularly, through the multiplied engagements of ſeveral of the moſt eminent coal-viewers and others concerned in the coal-trade, having prevented them from afford-

affording all the aſſiſtance that had been hoped for, in executing a plan propoſed in 1795, for the full inveſtigation of the natural hiſtory of this important mineral, yet many valuable communications have been received, from time to time, on theſe ſubjects; and many other excellent papers have been read at the monthly meetings of the ſociety, which have greatly contributed to the information and entertainment of its members; and ſome of them, by ſubſequent publication, to the inſtruction of the public at large.

ST. NICHOLAS' LIBRARY.

During the dark ages of popery, books were, in general, accounted uſeleſs, and, in ſome caſes, dangerous: for, whatever writing ſeemed to glance at that ghoſtly power, the book was put into the *Index expurgatorious*, (a ſort of literary inquiſition) and the poſſeſſor was liable to be turned over to the ſecular arm. No wonder, then, that, for ages, men trembled to have a book, eſpecially of rational religion, in their hands. But, when the great Ruler of all events employed the fierce, imperious paſſions of king Henry VIII. to combat the ſpiritual tyranny of Rome, in his dominions, who, by publiſhing an edition of the ſacred ſcriptures in Engliſh, gave a deadly blow to that ghoſtly power in this country. And ſo eager were all claſſes of men to peruſe this invaluable treaſure, that the clergy, aided by the magiſtrates, were obliged to have bibles chained to the choirs, where the pariſhioners might come and read them. This, it is well known, conſtituted the ancient libraries of our churches. Such a collection, eſpecially of devotional books, have originally, without doubt, been in St.

St. Nicholas' church; but at what time they were firſt ſhut up in ſeparate private apartments, is not handed down. There ſeems, however, to be a kind of indirect proof, by St. Nicholas' regiſter, that, as early as 1598, a perſon occurs as being buried "before the library door"

An enlightened alderman of Newcaſtle, Mr. John Coſins, draper, bequeathed, in the year 1661, one hundred volumes (ſixty folios and forty quartos) to St. Nicholas' church library. A. D. 1677, the common-council ordered three pounds per annum, as a ſalary to a librarian to ſuperintend this library, in its infant ſtate.

But this trifling collection ſcarcely deſerved the dignified name of a library, till the Rev. Dr. Tomlinſon, rector of Whickham, left by will a truly noble collection of moſt valuable books, handſomely bound, and of the beſt editions. This ineſtimable literary treaſure, worthy of a prince, was bequeathed by the reverend and generous donor to the people of Newcaſtle for ever, with the laudable deſign of diffuſing knowledge among the numerous inhabitants of this riſing mart of commerce and trade. That the bequeſt might not be miſapplied, a librarian was appointed, as we ſhall ſee, with a fixed ſalary of twenty-five pounds per annum. A rent-charge of five pounds yearly was alſo purchaſed by the worthy divine, for the purpoſe of encreaſing this valuable collection with the moſt uſeful works.

The books of the old library are kept in a ſeparate large room below that which contains Dr. Tomlinſon's collection.—*Brand.*

We will take this opportunity, therefore, of performing our promiſe at page 84; and, in addition, give

give a copy of the letters, and a detail of the endeavours which have been uſed to gain for the public a re-enjoyment of their privileges. They are communicated to us by a friend of uncontrouled enquiry. Few comments will be neceſſary: the facts are palpable; and he only waits an opportunity to prove their truth! for repetition, as in this caſe it would be impoſſible to avoid, ſo is it unneceſſary to apologize. It is a well-known fact, that by viewing the ſame object through different media we more juſtly eſtimate its conſequence.

CODICIL.

WHEREAS I, the Rev. Robert Tomlinſon, doctor of divinity, have made and duly executed my laſt will and teſtament in writing, bearing date the 18th day of this inſtant November, in the year of our Lord 1745: Now, I hereby ratify and confirm the ſame. And whereas my worthy and generous friend, Walter Blackett, of Wallington, in the county of Northumberland, eſq. hath, at his own expence, built over the veſtry of the church of St. Nicholas, in Newcaſtle upon Tyne, a handſome fabrick, conſiſting of two ſtories, for the reception of my books and thoſe of other benefactors, and has endowed the ſame with a rent-charge of twenty-five pounds a year, to be paid to a library-keeper, to be named and appointed in ſuch manner as I ſhall, by any deed or will atteſted by two or more credible witneſſes, direct and appoint: And whereas I have, by an inſtrument under my hand and ſeal, duly appointed the Rev. Nathaniel Clayton, bachelor of divinity, to be the firſt librarian, on ſuch conditions as therein mentioned: And whereas I have put into the ſaid fabrick or library above one thouſand ſix hundred books; and, for the increaſe of the ſaid library, have purchaſed of the ſaid Walter Blackett a rent-cherge of five pounds a year, to be a perpetual fund to ſupply the ſaid library with books. Now, I hereby give and deviſe unto the ſaid Walter Blackett, and the Rev. Thomas Sharp, doctor in divinity, and archdeacon of Northumberland, all the books which I have already put into the ſaid library aforeſaid; and alſo all the reſidue and remainder placed

of my books, except duplicates of Engliſh books, in truſt, to be placed in the library aforeſaid, for ſuch uſes, intents, and purpoſes, as are mentioned and expreſſed in the orders and ſtatutes of the ſaid library, made, appointed, and ſubſcribed by the ſaid Walter Blackett and me: And alſo I give and deviſe unto them my ſaid truſtees as many of the twenty-four preſſes in my ſtudy at Whickham as can be placed in the upper and lower library, in truſt, to be placed therein; and according to the power and authority to me given as aforeſaid, I hereby direct and appoint that each librarian, or keeper of the library aforeſaid, after my death, ſhall from time to time be elected, nominated, and appointed, and alſo removed and diſplaced, by ſuch perſon and perſons, and in ſuch manner as is hereinafter mentioned; that is to ſay, that the ſaid Walter Blackett, for and during his natural life, ſhall from time to time have the ſole nomination and appointment of the library-keeper or librarian of the library aforeſaid; and alſo full power and authority, for juſt cauſe, to remove and diſplace the preſent or any other librarian, and elect, nominate, and appoint another in the room and place and ſtead of him who ſhall be ſo removed. And after the death of the ſaid Walter Blackett, that the heirs male of the body of the ſaid Walter Blackett ſhall from time to time have the like power of election, nomination, and appointment of ſuch library-keeper, and alſo the like power, for reaſonable cauſe, to remove and diſplace the ſame, and to elect and appoint others in the room of ſuch who ſhall be ſo diſplaced. And I hereby direct and appoint further, that failing the ſaid Walter Blackett and the heirs male of his body, then the mayor of Newcaſtle upon Tyne aforeſaid for the time being, the archdeacon of Northumberland for the time being, the vicar of Newcaſtle upon Tyne for the time being, and the lecturer of Saint Nicholas' church aforeſaid for the time being, or the majority of them, ſhall from time to time have the election, nomination, and appointment of ſuch library-keeper; and alſo ſhall have the power, for juſt cauſe, to remove and diſplace the ſame, and elect, nominate, and appoint others in the room and place of thoſe who ſhall be ſo removed. And if at any time the four truſtees ſhould be equally divided, then the mayor of Newcaſtle to have the caſting vote. And my mind and will further is, and I hereby direct and appoint, that after the death or removal of any librarian, another librarian ſhall within twenty days be choſen from and amongſt the then licenſed curates

curates of the churches of St. Nicholas, All-Saints, St. John's, and St. Andrew's, in Newcaſtle upon Tyne aforeſaid, preference being given to thoſe of St. Nicholas: And in default of making ſuch election of a librarian within twenty days in manner aforeſaid, then my will is, that the rector of Whickham for the time being, the rector of Ryton for the time being, and the rector of Gateſhead for the time being, or the majority of them, ſhall have power to elect, nominate, and appoint ſuch library-keeper for that turn only; and afterwards each librarian or library-keeper of the ſaid library ſhall from time to time be elected, nominated, and appointed, and alſo removed and diſplaced by ſuch other perſon or perſons, and in ſuch manner, as herein before mentioned, and not by the ſaid rectors of Whickham, Ryton, and Gateſhead; it being my mind and will that the ſaid rectors ſhall not have the election, nomination, and appointment of the library-keeper at any time other than when default of making election of a librarian within twenty days ſhall happen; and that then the ſaid rectors ſhall have the election for that turn only, and ſhall have no power to elect afterwards until the like default ſhall happen again. And my mind and will is, that each librarian ſhall give ſuch ſecurity, and be ſubject to ſuch rules, orders, and regulations, as are already made and ordained, or ſhall hereafter be made or ordained for that purpoſe by the ſaid Walter Blackett and me. And it is my mind and will that the ſaid Walter Blackett, during his life, and the archdeacon of Northumberland for the time being, ſhall be viſitors jointly of the ſaid books; and after the ſaid Walter Blackett's death, that the heirs male of his body, together with the archdeacon of Northumberland for the time being, ſhall be viſitors; and failing the ſaid Walter Blackett and his heirs male, that the mayor of Newcaſtle aforeſaid for the time being, and the archdeacon of Northumberland aforeſaid for the time being, jointly, ſhall be viſitors for ever. And I do hereby declare, direct, and appoint that the buſineſs of the ſaid viſitors ſhall be to viſit the ſaid books once a year at leaſt, and to examine the catalogue of books, and ſee that all the books are there, and to correct and rectify all abuſes, and to hear and determine all complaints, and to puniſh the breach of the ſaid rules, orders, and ſtatutes. And my will is, that the time and manner of viſiting be according to the ſtatutes or rules aforeſaid. And it is my mind and will, that this be and be deemed and taken to be a codicil to and a part or parcel

of my ſaid laſt will and teſtament. In witneſs whereof, I have hereunto ſet my hand and ſeal, this 20th day of November, in the year of our Lord 1745.

R. TOMLINSON, (L. S.)

Signed, ſealed, publiſhed, and declared by the above named Dr. Robert Tomlinſon, as and for a codicil to his laſt will and teſtament, in the preſence of us, who at his requeſt, and in his preſence, and alſo in the preſence of each other, have ſet our names as witneſſes.

ROBERT CHAMBERS.
CUTHBERT TAYLOR.
GEORGE DODS.

The above is the firſt codicil to Dr. Tomlinſon's will, on which the right of the inhabitants reſts.---- How they came to loſe their privileges will be ſeen by the following letters that paſſed on the ſubject, ſeveral of which have never before been made public.

Rev. Dr.—I have often thought of writing to you relative to Dr. Tomlinſon's library, at St. Nicholas' church, which I doubt not you know very well has been ſhut up for many years; and by a hint I got laſt week, I have reaſon to believe many of the books are much injured by damp. I did not know till very lately, that you as archdeacon, Mr. Luſhington as vicar of Newcaſtle, and the mayor for the time being, were the three truſtees of the library. Mr. Alderman Hornby told me laſt Saturday, that he had in his poſſeſſion the minutes of a viſitation of the library, when his late brother, Mr. Clayton, was librarian, held by the late vicar, Mr. Turner, Mr. Featherſtonhaugh, and Mr. Dockwray, to examine that all the books were there agreeing with the catalogue, and that only two were found wanting, one of which, by a memorandum at the bottom, was found miſplaced, and the other Mr. Clayton recollected he had lent to one of the clergy, and got it again. Mr. Hornby alſo told me he had a copy of the codicil to my late friend Dr. Tomlinſon's will, wherein

wherein an annual viſitation by ſome of the truſtees is directed. I hope you will therefore apply to the Vicar and Mr. Mayor for their concurrence, and not let ſo valuable a collection of books any longer remain uſeleſs to the public, and liable to be entirely ſpoiled. You may perhaps wonder at my taking ſo much notice of this matter, but I received ſo many marks of real friendſhip from Dr. Tomlinſon, when an apprentice to Mr. Bryſon, that I ſhall always revere his memory; and Sir Walter Blackett was alſo a very good friend to me. I cannot, therefore, help thinking that the long neglect of this library is ſhewing very little regard to the memory of the donor of the books and builder of the library. I remember often going when an apprentice with books Mr. Clayton had ordered for the library, as he always took care to lay out the five pounds left by Dr. Tomlinſon to purchaſe new books and complete ſets, and often found five or ſix clergy and gentlemen with him reading at different deſks; and I make no doubt, if the library was again opened, that many not only of the clergy, but alſo gentlemen, would ſpend their leaſure hours there. I hope you will excuſe the freedom I have taken—And am, Rev. Dr.

your obliged humble ſervant,

W. CHARNLEY.

Newcaſtle, May 12, 1788.

The forgoing letter not being noticed in that gentleman-like manner Mr. Charnley had every reaſon to expect, he addreſſed the following to the Right Rev. the Lord Biſhop of Durham, Auckland Caſtle.

My Lord.—Sometime ſince I wrote a letter to Dr. Sharp, archdeacon of Northumberland, relative to my worthy friend Dr. Tomlinſon's library at St. Nicholas' church, of which your lordſhip has a copy below. I ſhould not have thought of troubling your lordſhip with this, if Dr. Sharp, with whom I have been long acquainted, had given me any anſwer; but as he has not I would be much obliged to your lordſhip, if, when you are in the veſtry either before or after your viſitation, you would deſire Mr. Elliſon, the keeper of the library, to ſhew it to your lordſhip. The books are in a large room above the veſtry. I beg leave to aſſure your lordſhip that I have no intereſted view in wiſhing to have the library again opened for the uſe of the public; it pro-

ceeds entirely from a principle of gratitude to the generous donor, who in my youth took as much notice of me as if I had been his own child. I ſhould not have taken the liberty of addreſſing your lordſhip in a matter which does not properly come under your cognizance, if I had not twice had the pleaſure of ſeeing the queries you have put to your clergy, which convinces me that you are determined to do all the good you can in that elevated ſtation in which Providence has been pleaſed to place you.—I am, my lord, your lordſhip's

moſt obedient humble ſervant,

Newcaſtle, July 3, 1788. W. CHARNLEY.

P. S. Your lordſhip will deſire Mr. Elliſon, the keeper, to ſhew you the library, and point out to you the books he has purchaſed for the laſt twenty years with the five pounds he receives annually with his ſalary for that purpoſe. There is another old library in the room below Dr. Tomlinſon's, which Mr. Elliſon has alſo the charge of; his ſalary for both is twenty-five pounds per annum.

The following letters, relative to this ſubject, are copied from the Newcaſtle Advertiſer.

To the Truſtees of Dr. Tomlinſon's Library.

DO you believe. when Dr. Tomlinſon left his books, and five pounds a year for ever, to purchaſe more; and when Sir Walter Blackett, bart. built the library, and ſettled twenty pounds a year for ever on the librarian, that they intended the library for the uſe of the public, or merely as a ſinecure to the librarian?——If you believe the former, what good reaſon can you aſſign to the public for ſuffering the preſent librarian totally to neglect his duty for twenty years paſt, and not purchaſing any books during that time with the five pounds he has annually received?

April 16, 1789. I am, yours, &c, LECTOR.

IT is generally acknowledged that a newſpaper, properly conducted, is of great utility; for, if the conduct of individuals could not be animadverted upon, and expoſed to public cenſure, or public approbation, the overbearing would tyrannize over his neighbours; and the virtuous would neither be applauded nor imitated. But every convenience has its correſpondent inconvenience; and the greateſt bleſſings, by an improper uſe, may produce

duce the greateſt miſery. The character of the virtuous may be miſrepreſented, ſuſpicion may ſuggeſt crimes that only exiſt in its jaundiced mind, and malevolence may blaſt the fair fame of the moſt virtuous perſon; and there is no vehicle ſo proper for the accompliſhing ſuch injurious purpoſes as a newſpaper. The conductor of a newſpaper ſhould therefore be very cautious in admitting paragraphs which reflect upon the character of individuals; and he ſhould always give the accuſed an opportunity of defending themſelves from the attacks of the ignorant or deſigning: for though innocence may ſatisfy the guiltleſs mind, who may diſregard an accuſation, yet ſilence is no proof of innocence, becauſe the moſt atrocious need not reply to an anonymous accuſation.

The preceding ſentiments occurred to me on reading the queries in your entertaining paper of laſt Saturday. Admitting them to be true, they are unanſwerable, or rather anſwer themſelves. But is it poſſible that men of a liberal education, and in ſituations ſuperior to the vulgar or unprincipled, can be ſo regardleſs of their character? Suppoſing they may, are all the parties concerned alike culpable? I am perſuaded they are not. One of them is only a truſtee for a year, when his time is ſufficiently employed in diſcharging the duties of an arduous and an honourable office. Another reſpectable gentleman, I am informed, did not, a few weeks ago, know that he was a truſtee. Certainly, Mr. Printer, theſe gentlemen are neither culpable nor criminal.

Happy ſhould I be could I exculpate the preſent truſtees and the librarian, who have repeatedly been requeſted to do their duty; the former ought to know that the books are mouldering into duſt, for want of being kept clean, and the room well aired; the latter, I hope, is incapable of appropriating the five pounds per annum to his own uſe, and of neglecting to purchaſe the *Philoſophical Tranſactions*, and other works which are annually publiſhed, and were added to the library by his predeceſſors. Should he continue to keep the library locked up, and refuſe to do his duty, the clergy and inhabitants ſhould petition Sir J. Trevelyan to withhold the ſalary; at the ſame time pledging themſelves to defray the expence of any proſecution he might commence. The judge and the jury who could give him damages, would, by their verdict, ſay, "We are the advocates of injuſtice, and the patrons of ignorance; it is our opinion, that the inhabitants of Newcaſtle ſhould have no knowledge of books, or of literary ſubjects; and

that

that the perſon who accepts of an appointment with a ſalary ought not to perform thoſe duties for which he receives an adequate reward."

April 22, 1789. APOLOGIST.

LECTOR, the Apologiſt, and more particularly you, Mr. Printer, are intitled to the thanks of the inhabitants of this populous town. Whether the library will be opened, or remain inacceſſible, you have done your duty.

To Lector's ſpirited queries no objection can be made; but allow me to ſay that the Apologiſt appears to be miſtaken, or is not ſufficiently informed in ſome particulars. He ſays one of the truſtees did not, a few weeks ago, know that he was one. I rather ſuppoſe the gentleman alluded to is one of the ſecondary truſtees, empowered to act if thoſe firſt mentioned refuſed to do their duty. There are other reſpectable gentlemen alſo appointed to act with him: how far they diſcharge their duty I preſume not to determine. That they and the public may know the merits of this buſineſs, that part of Dr. Tomlinſon's will relative to the library, and the ſtatutes, ſhould be publiſhed. This intimation, it is preſumed, will not be diſregarded; and it is requeſted that ſome gentleman who has a copy will communicate it to the public, through the channel of your reſpectable paper.

The advice of the Apologiſt is perhaps not the moſt proper. The late Sir Walter Blackett, whoſe memory muſt be held in high eſtimation, while the many charitable inſtitutions in this town remain, to which he was ſo liberal a contributor, conſidering the fluctuating ſtate of property, and that Wallington might not always belong to his generous relatives, has ſo ſecured the payment of the ſalary, that it cannot be withheld, particularly from the preſent librarian, who was appointed by himſelf.

Yet let not the public deſpond; if the librarian keep the books locked up; if the truſtees refuſe to act, the lord chancellor becomes the legal and conſtitutional truſtee: a petition from the clergy and principal inhabitants, ſtating the fact, would induce him to reinſtate them in the uſe of the library. He would alſo compel the perſon who retains the five pounds a year, (if Lector is not miſtaken, and it has been laid out in books) to reimburſe the money, and to appropriate it to the purpoſes of the generous teſtator.

If the books remain ſhut up; if the inhabitants do not petition the

the chancellor, let them not blame the truſtees; let them not cenſure the librarian; they, and they only, will be to blame: their exertions will ſhew, whether they deſerve the uſe of ſo valuable a library or not.

Newcaſtle, May 1, 1789. MODERATOR.

THE unaccountableneſs of ſirnames, and their not being applicable or deſcriptive of the diſpoſition or faculties of their poſſeſſors, have frequently employed my thoughts, and have made the vacant hours paſs as agreeably as caſtle-building, or a game at cards, and perhaps more uſefully. How many *Whites* do we know, whoſe complexion and conduct are *black?* How many *Blacks*, who are remarkable for *beauty* and *fair-dealing?* How many *Strongs*, who are *delicate?* And how many *Browns*, who are *fair?* Even the perſon, whoſe name was *Juſtice*, has been *tranſported*, or finiſhed his career at the *fatal tree*. The Chriſtian name ſhould remind us of our profeſſion; and from the ſirname, the contemplative mind will derive hints and maxims to correct its vicious propenſities, and to promote its happineſs, and the happineſs of mankind.

When anonymous writers voluntarily endeavour to amuſe or inſtruct the public, their ſignatures ſhould at leaſt be deſcriptive of their perſons or ſentiments. An eſſay on urbanity ſhould not be ſigned *Vindex*; nor ſhould the advocate of chicanery call himſelf *Juſtice*. If theſe remarks are proper, what ſhall we think of the writer whoſe ſignature is Moderator, in your paper of the 2d inſtant? He ſays, "to Lector's ſpirited queries no objection can be made."

Is this the language of *moderation?*—Is it the language of *truth?*—What, ſhall the Querift charge a moſt reſpectable character with a breach of truſt, and ſhall no objection be made to it? Will not every generous mind alike deſpiſe the calumny and the calumniator? Thoſe who know the reſpectable gentleman alluded to, are convinced, that his innocence, and placid temper, prevent him from juſtifying himſelf. But for ſake of the profeſſion to which he is an ornament, it would give his friends the greateſt pleaſure if he would ſilence his calumniators by publiſhing, in your excellent paper, a liſt of the new books he has purchaſed the laſt twenty years for the library of St. Nicholas.

Newcaſtle, May 8, 1789. CLERICUS.

Mr.

Mr. Printer.—It appears by the inſcription upon Dr. Tomlinſon's monument in Whickham church, that he left his library to the corporation of Newcaſtle, for public uſe. What follows is copied from the marble:

"He alſo bequeathed his library, a large and moſt valuable "collection of books, in all branches of literature, to the corpo- "ration of Newcaſtle, for public uſe, with a rent-charge of five "pounds a year for ever, as a fund to buy new books."

From this extract any perſon would ſuppoſe, that the corporation, as a body, muſt have ſome part of the truſt veſted in them by the doctor's will; and if they have, they will next week have a fine opportunity of ſeeing the archdeacon and vicar, at the viſitation, which will be held at St. Nicholas' church on Wedneſday next, the 10th inſtant, when the librarian may be ordered to ſhew the truſtees the condition the books are at preſent in, and directed immediately to open the library for the uſe of the public.

June 5, 1789. LECTOR.

To the Stewards of the incorporated Companies in Newcaſtle.

Gentlemen.—The following hints are ſubmitted to your conſideration, without any apology, becauſe you cannot be unacquainted with the inefficacy of the meaſures that have been taken to compel the librarian of Dr. Tomlinſon's library to open it for the benefit of the public.

The law of this country will not compel a truſtee to execute the will of another, unleſs he thinks proper. The majority of the truſtees under the will of the late Dr. Tomlinſon either refuſe to act, or the librarian refuſes to comply with their directions, and diſregards the ſtatutes of the library, though he is paid the ſalary, to which he cannot be entitled unleſs he diſcharges his duty. This being an indiſputable fact, the buſineſs comes properly before the burgeſſes aſſembled in guild, *becauſe the library was bequeathed to the corporation of this town.*

To introduce this buſineſs before the guild, give me leave to ſuggeſt to you the propriety of a previous meeting, that you may be maſters of the ſubject. Would there be any impropriety in Mr. Mayor and the burgeſſes ſending a card to the librarian, to attend them at the guild; and in publicly aſking him why he does not do his duty? If he do not attend, apply to Sir Thomas Blackett, to appoint another librarian; and inſiſt on the preſent librarian's paying the damages the books may have ſuſtained by

his

his neglect, and accounting for the money he has received to purchaſe new books.

Some of you, perhaps, will ſay, This has no relation to our rights or privileges: Let ſuch remember, that the library is bequeathed, not to the truſtees, but to the corporation. That burgeſſes have, or may have, ſons to be educated for the church, or for ſome of the liberal ſciences, and that ſuch ſtudents have a right to the uſe of the library. If you diſregard this addreſs, you will deprive the inhabitants of this town, and your poſterity, of an advantage no private fortune can procure, or opulence itſelf obtain, becauſe many of the books are extremely ſcarce, and cannot be bought.

A BURGESS.

The following is an extract of a letter from a gentleman of this town, addreſſed to Dr. Barrington, biſhop of Durham.

Newcaſtle, May 7, 1801.

My Lord,—Your lordſhip will find in the 61ſt page of Bourne's Hiſtory of Newcaſtle, in the 2d volume of Wallis's Hiſtory of Northumberland, and in Hutchinſon's Hiſtory of Durham, article Whickham, in a note, that there was an old library in St. Nicholas' church; and that, in addition, a very extenſive one (for the north of England) was left to this town by the late Dr. Tomlinſon, of Whickham, that a building was erected for them by the late Sir W. Blackett, (ſee Brand's Hiſtory of Newcaſtle): the lower part of this building is occupied as a veſtry; the two upper rooms, which would each contain ten thouſand volumes, were dedicated to the uſe of the old and new library. My lord, for twenty years this invaluable collection was locked up, by the Rev. John Elliſon; and the ſalary and the money for buying books ſpent--he knows beſt in what manner. He was only brought back to his duty by a public cenſure in the Newcaſtle Advertiſer, for April and the following months, in 1789. I underſtand, from undoubted authority, that, in the regulations of that library, the hours of attendance are from ten to twelve in the forenoon, and from two to four in the afternoon of every day, Sunday excepted. The preſent librarian attends from nine to twelve in the morning only, and in every holiday this library is ſhut up; nay more, my lord, admittance is abſolutely refuſed to the old one. My lord, the public neither know when to go, what power to uſe when there, nor what books they contain. Your

lordſhip's interference, and publication of the rules and the catalogue, are the only cures left. I beg your Lordſhip's pardon for the freedom of this letter, if your lordſhip ſhould find too much in it; but, in the cauſe of knowledge, I would be aſhamed to be otherwiſe. I am, my lord, &c. * * *

P. S. A ſub-librarian has been appointed, (by Mr. Elliſon) who has to attend prayers every other day at eleven, and frequently at the bridge-end chapel at ten o'clock, when the doors are ſhut for that day. Should you, my lord, recommend a catalogue and the rules being publiſhed, I would, with great pleaſure, take the trouble (if the truſtees chuſe to appoint me, and allow me to name my own aſſiſtant) of comparing the books with the catalogue; (for it is ſaid ſome of them are loſt ſince Mr. Elliſon was librarian) and overlooking the preſs;—my own conſcience will be my reward.

To which his lordſhip was pleaſed to return the following anſwer.

Cav. Square, May 11. 1801.

Sir,—If the abuſes, of which you complain, can be proved, and I have any authority to redreſs them, you may reſt aſſured that I will enter upon the enquiry. The beſt time for the purpoſe, in caſe I have the authority which your complaint implies, will be in the evening of the 6th of July, when the buſineſs of my viſitation at Newcaſtle is finiſhed.

I am, Sir, with regard,
Your humble ſervant,
S. DUNELM.

It is no wonder that the attempts which have been made within the laſt twelve months were ineffectual. The greateſt part of our townſmen being unconſcious of their privileges, mis-ſtatement and evaſive apology were exhibited and received in the place of facts.—It was ſaid that the preſent librarian is an old man, and that great indulgence ought conſequently to be allowed. Surely the public not obſerving his non-attendance for above twenty years, is an indulgence of

of the moſt extraordinary kind! It is ſaid by Mr. Brand, in his letter to a gentleman in this town, who wrote to him on the ſubject in queſtion, that the ſalary is ſhamefully inadequate to ſuch duties as the regulations require. In reply, it may be obſerved, firſt, that at the appointment, in 1747, the ſum was quite ſufficient: ſecondly, that very many, even at the preſent day, would be glad to have ſuch an office with ſuch a ſalary: thirdly, that if the librarian think it too little, his reſource is obvious, *reſignation*. But the preſent librarian took the office, knowing the duties and the compenſation: his continuance is, therefore, an acknowledgment of the ſufficiency of the income.

But let us ſuppoſe a regular attendance. Where are the regulations? Not upon any of the tables; not exhibited as publicly as the library they direct! not ſhewn to any of the viſitants! but with the ſixty folios and forty quartos of Coſins, with the books of many others, as at page 294; with the manuſcripts, with many even of Dr. Tomlinſon's books, and with the privileges of the inhabitants;---they are quickly going, if not gone already to decay!

A gentleman who holds one of the offices that give to the poſſeſſor the right of a truſtee, has declared that he ſaw nothing to be complained of! No fault in the non-attendance for upwards of twenty years! No fault in receiving more than one hundred pounds in that time for buying books, and almoſt none purchaſed with the money! No fault in taking the full ſalary for twenty years non-attendance! None in the library being ſhut up ſo often all the day on account of holidays, (and Mr Hurd going to the bridge-end chapel) as to licenſe the expreſſion of the libra-

rian opening it only when he pleaſes! No fault in the books being ſo damaged during the twenty years ſabbath of this reverend gentleman, as to require Mr. Charnley's aſſiſtance to reſtore them from the injuries of the dampth! No fault in the regulations being withheld! None in the old library being poſitively refuſed acceſs to! None in the compromiſed attendance of the librarian or his deputy! None in that deputy receiving half the ſalary for half the ſtatute attendance, and the real librarian curtailing the duties, and ſhielding himſelf under the ſmallneſs of the ſalary! None in many of the books entered in the catalogue being miſſing!!! This gentleman would do well to take the number of years Mr. Elliſon has been librarian, which, multiplied by five, gives the ſum he has received for buying books. How many has he purchaſed? If he wiſhes for conviction, let him apply to Mr. Charnley, of whom they were to be bought; but that worthy man has ſpoken for himſelf above. It is alſo ſaid that Mr. Elliſon has no right to attend, or that it would be cruel to make him, when none, or only one or two, come. To this only one reply is neceſſary: *he receives his ſalary;* by ſo doing, *he makes it his duty to attend whether any come or not:* if he does not attend, or ſend a ſubſtitute, why receive the money? As to the old library room, if it was *empty*, it might be open to inquirers. But we would aſk any of the truſtees, Is it a crime to make it uſeful? Would it be "impudence," as one of thoſe gentlemen has affirmed, "in any public body putting it to a public uſe," until wanted for the library, if the librarian ſuffers it to be wanted at all? But Mr. Hurd allows that there are ſome books there; the neceſſity, then, for

for its being opened, is obvious; and yet theſe clerical gentlemen are the firſt to raiſe the hue and cry of innovation, directing their anathemas at reformations! They ſhould not vociferate the *Io Pæans* of ſelf complacency to ſtun the ears of thoſe who, but for them, would hear the ſtill ſmall voice that reformers would uſe in their own defence.

The only effectual cure we can point out is, to have the catalogue printed, as at Bamborough Caſtle, with the above codicil and the regulations; and if any money is wanted to defray the charge of printing, &c. Mr. Elliſon cannot better employ the balance of what he has received for buying books, than by aſſiſting ſuch a publication with it.

The ſalary is at preſent paid by a Mr. Boſville, in in the county of York; and the truſtees at preſent are:

Joſeph Forſter, Eſq. mayor of this town.
Rev. J. D Carlyle, vicar of do.
*Rev. Dr. Thorp, archdeacon of Northumberland.
*Rev. John Forſter, lecturer of St. Nicholas.

SECONDARY.

*Rev. Dr. Thorp, rector of Ryton.
*Rev. Dr. Proſſer, rector of Gateſhead.
*Rev. Mr. Greville, Rector of Whickham.

Thoſe marked thus (*) were, in conjunction with Mr. Reed, the late mayor, applied to; but have not yet thought any reform neceſſary.

Dr. Tomlinſon died March 24, 1747.
Sir W. C. Blackett died February 14, 1777.

OTHER

OTHER LIBRARIES.

At the New Aſſembly-houſe there is a ſubſcription news-room, upon a plan peculiarly liberal and acceptable. Here, beſides the public journals of every kind, a conſiderable number of books, particularly thoſe illuſtrative of the public tranſactions and events, and of the ſtate of manners and literature at home and abroad, are purchaſed and preſerved, and will one day form a very valuable library of the moſt popular productions, on all ſides, upon the various intereſting topics of diſcuſſion which, from time to time, have agitated the public mind.

We cannot avoid mentioning the valuable circulating libraries of Mr. Sands, in the Bigg-market, and Mr. Humble, in Moſley-ſtreet; in which, particularly the former, are upwards of twelve thouſand books, on every branch of ſcience and literature.

There is alſo a circulating-library in the Groat-market, conſiſting chiefly of novels, belonging to Mrs. Chilton.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

The Manors, once the ſite of the ſumptuous priory of the St. Auſtin friars, contain ſeveral charitable inſtitutions, among which is

JESUS HOSPITAL.

This well endowed aſylum had originally the name as above, but it is now called the Town's Hoſpital, or General Hoſpital, for the reception of the poor of the ſeveral pariſhes of the town. You aſcend to it by ſtairs from the ſtreet, and then enter into a pleaſant field, on the north ſide of which is the ſaid hoſpital. It is three ſtories high, and the under ſtory is adorned with piazzas, which are about ſixty yards in length, and make a very agreeable walk. About the middle of the piazzas is the entrance into the ſecond and third ſtories; and over againſt this entrance is a fountain (very much beautified) for the uſe of the hoſpital. It was founded for a maſter and thirty-nine poor freemen, or freemen's widows.

A. D. 1683, it was incorporated by the name of the Maſter, Brethren, and Siſters of the Hoſpital of the Holy Jeſus, founded in the Manors, in the town and county of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, at the charge of the mayor and burgeſſes of that town, for the ſupport, for ever, of poor impotent people, being freemen and freemen's widows, or their ſons and daughters that had never been married.

Thomas Lewen, merchant, was appointed the firſt maſter, with thirty-nine others, to have power to ſue

ſue and be ſued, implead and be impleaded, purchaſe and hold lands, and have a common ſeal, with a croſs graven thereon, and in the circumference, "*Sigillum Hoſpitalis Sancti Jeſu in Novo Caſtro.*" The mayor, aldermen, and common-council of Newcaſtle for the time being, were appointed viſitors, and to give rules and laws to this hoſpital.

Theſe rules were drawn up and ſealed in the year 1683.

So benevolent an inſtitution, ſerving as a calm and peaceful retreat in a moſt delightful ſituation, ſoon experienced that the obſervation of St. James (ch. ii. v. 15) was inapplicable to their generous patrons: "If a brother or ſiſter be naked and deſtitute of daily food, and one of you ſay unto them, depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithſtanding ye give them not thoſe things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?"——What indeed?

The moſt ſubſtantial ſources of ſupport for the Freemen's Hoſpital are as follow.

A. D. 1683, a meſſuage, key or quay, and garden, in that ſtreet called the Cloſe, in Newcaſtle, was purchaſed by the mayor and burgeſſes for ſeven hundred pounds, and ſettled on the maſter, brethren and ſiſters of this hoſpital.

In the year 1683, an eſtate at Edderly, in the county of Durham, was purchaſed as above for one thouſand ſix hundred and ten pounds, and ſettled on the above maſter, &c.

In 1685, an eſtate at Whittell, in the county of Northumberland, was purcahſed as above for one thouſand three hundred pounds, for the ſame charitable purpoſe.

In

In 1695, Mr. John Runney bequeathed two hundred and fifty pounds; the intereſt for the behoof of this hoſpital.

In 1721, Mr. John Ord deviſed one pound ſix ſhillings and eight-pence annually, and alſo ſix ſhillings and eight-pence from another meſſuage of his, for its ſupport.

In 1752, the corporation ordered forty fothers of coals to be ſent there annually, at the feſtival of Chriſtmas.

In 1769, there was an order of common-council for the maſter to be paid eight, and each brother and ſiſter ſix pounds per annum.

In 1779, the mayor, &c. in conſequence of a reſolution to prefer, in future, the moſt aged claimants to the places that ſhould fall vacant in this hoſpital, made an order, that the ſeveral candidates ſhould produce certificates of their reſpective ages, to be regularly filed in the town-clerk's office.

MRS. DAVISON'S HOSPITAL.

This laudable erection was for a governeſs, and five ſiſters, to be widows of proteſtant clergymen, merchants, and freemen of Newcaſtle, endowed by the charity of Mrs. Ann Daviſon, widow of Mr. Benjamin Daviſon, merchant. It was built by the corporation near that of the Holy Jeſus, in the year 1725.

In the incorporation of this charity, the governeſs and ſiſters have a power to ſue and be ſued, &c. and to purchaſe lands. The mayor and common-council of Newcaſtle to be viſitors on the death of Mr. Grey,

and to appoint governeſſes and ſiſters, or on any miſconduct to remove them.

The above Mrs. Ann Daviſon appointed, after the payment of her debts, legacies, and funeral expences, that the ſurplus of her perſonal eſtate ſhould be divided among the poor, at the diſcretion of her executors, George Grey, eſq. the Rev. Robert Tomlinſon, William Elliſon, eſq. and John Ord, gent. This ſurplus was nine hundred and forty pounds, with which the executors agreed to build this hoſpital, which was accordingly done; Mr. Grey being the ſurviving truſtee.

In the year 1754, the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle, having been appointed the patrons of this charity by the above ſurviving truſtee, erected a handſome new ſet of apartments for the governeſs and five ſiſters, on the ſite of the former houſe.

A. D. 1771, there was an order of common-council for each woman in Mrs. Daviſon's Hoſpital to be allowed eight carts of coals in every year.

Sir WALTER BLACKETT's HOSPITAL.

The intention of this foundation was for the reception of ſix unmarried men, being poor and decayed burgeſſes of the town, in 1754; the worthy baronet, on the receipt of a bond given him by the corporation, having depoſited one thouſand two hundred pounds for that purpoſe.

In the year 1777, there was an order of common-council for an allowance of eight carts of fire-coal, yearly, to every man in this hoſpital.

A ſtone is put over their apartments, inſcribed as follows:

This

This Hoſpital,
for ſix unmarried men,
built on the ground, and at the common charge,
of the corporation of this town,
Was founded by Sir WALTER BLACKETT, bart.
the munificent magiſtrate, and repreſentative
in ſeven ſucceſſive parliaments, of Newcaſtle upon Tyne,
A. D. 1754.

MR. DAVISON's HOSPITAL.

This humane inſtitution owed its exiſtence to Thomas Daviſon, Eſq. of Ferry-hill, in the county of Durham, and his ſiſters.

A D. 1784, the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle erected here, on their ground, and at their common expence, an elegant ſet of apartments, for ſix unmarried women, under the ſame roof with thoſe intended for the two former hoſpitals, of Mrs. Ann Daviſon and Sir Walter Blackett, bart.

A. D. 1771, there was an order of common-council to give an allowance of eight carts of fire-coal to every woman in this houſe.

The following inſcription is on a ſtone over the door:

This Hoſpital for ſix unmarried women,
to be daughters and widows of burgeſſes,
built on the ground, and at the common charge,
of the corporation of this town,
was founded by THOMAS DAVISON, Eſq.
of Ferry-Hill, in the county of Durham,
A. D. 1754.

As the hand of charity is never wearied with being ſtretched out to relieve indigence and old age, overwhelmed with all its concomitant train; ſo the eye of humanity is never tired in beholding

the generous efforts of the truly virtuous and good, to ſoothe and alleviate thoſe evils that embitter the feeble remains of declining life. In this ſenſe, the uſefulneſs of the ſeveral quiet aſylums for poverty and old age, in the Manors, are of more genuine worth than all the uſeleſs ſplendor of the Spaniſh eſcurial, or the pompous monuments of luxury and oſtentation.

KEELMEN's HOSPITAL.

We have already mentioned this uſeful claſs of the community of Newcaſtle, page 142. We have now the pleaſing ſatisfaction of laying before our readers the prudent precautions which they have taken to ſhield themſelves againſt abſolute penury; as alſo to alleviate the painful days of ſickneſs and of old age. We ſhall firſt deſcribe their hoſpital, and then the truly laudable inſtitution for eſtabliſhing a permanent fund to ſupport the ſick and aged members of the Keelmen's Society.

The Keelmen's Hoſpital is ſituated a little eaſtward of the Carpenter's Tower, on the Garth-heads, behind Sandgate. It is a ſquare building, in the form of monaſteries and colleges, having its low walks round it, in imitation of cloiſters. The area within it is about eighty-three feet broad, and ninety-ſeven and a half long. It contains above fifty-two chambers for the accommodation of the aged members of both ſexes. One room is large and light, for holding the general meetings, in which is their ſtrong box, well ſecured, for keeping the money, books, &c. and in a ſmall room adjacent the ſtewards and clerk meet every ſix weeks, for the purpoſe

poſe of collecting the regular contributions of the ſociety. At their general annual meeting, they walk in proceſſion through the principal ſtreets of the town, in decent dreſſes, attended with muſic of different kinds; while all claſſes of inhabitants take a pleaſure in viewing this body of men, who conſtitute a great proportion of the ſtrength, and ſource of the wealth of Newcaſtle, and for many miles adjacent on both ſides of the Tyne. They then ſit down to a plentiful dinner, ſubſtantial and ſolid, like themſelves; and in an inoffenſive, convivial manner, at leaſt for one day in the year, do theſe hardy, induſtrious fellows throw down all burdens of concern about the "*lang rack*," dark nights, ſhips' hawſers, and great freſhes, with a hearty ſhake-hands, and get home—in the beſt manner they can.

Who this hoſpital was built by, may be learned from the inſcription on its ſouth front.

THE KEELMEN'S HOSPITAL, BUILT AT THEIR OWN CHARGE, ANNO DOMINI 1701. MATTHEW WHITE, ESQ. GOVERNOUR; MR. EDWARD GREY, MR EDWARD CARR, STEWARDS OF THE HOASTMEN'S COMPANY FOR THE TIME BEING, AND TRUSTEES FOR THIS HOSPITAL.

I have been told, ſays Mr. Bourne, that Dr. Moor, one of the late biſhops of Ely, upon ſailing down the river in the ſtate barge, with the mayor and magiſtrates, obſerved this building, and aſked what it was, and who built it? The mayor replied, it was an hoſpital for aged and decayed keelmen; and that it was built by themſelves, each man paying one penny a tide. The good prelate replied, that he had heard of and ſeen many hoſpitals, the works of *rich men*; but this was the firſt he ever ſaw,

ſaw, or heard of, which had been been built by the *poor*. It is a great pity, it has been ſaid, that the deſign of this building is not thoroughly anſwered; but there are ſome *miſcreants*, who would rather ſtarve in ſickneſs, or old age, than not guzzle a penny in their health and youth.

This obſervation we muſt allow to be true in part; for it is generally obſerved, that, in a large body of men, ſuch as the keelmen, whoſe employment in life is laborious and hazardous, many of them are not over much concerned for futurity. But it was ſhrewdly ſaid, that if there was thoughtleſſneſs *below ſtairs*, there was artifice *above*; and that the fitters and coal-owners dreaded the independency of ſuch a vaſt body of men, ſhould they, by economy, grow opulent, and ſo become turbulent and ungovernable; and therefore counteracted and undermined this laudable ſcheme. We hope, however, that this inſinuation againſt gentlemen of ſo much honour and humanity, is not correct, and is only founded on miſrepreſentation.

We cannot omit inſerting here a note reſpecting the Keelmen's Hoſpital, left in the manuſcript of our deceaſed friend, from whom we have derived much original information.

"The late alderman Simpſon having bequeathed one hundred pounds to this hoſpital, the following very beautiful acknowledgment of his bounty was affixed on the ſouth ſide of the hoſpital, fronting the Shields turnpike-road.

In the year 1786,
The intereſt of 100l. at 5 per cent. for ever,
to be annually diſtributed,
on the twenty-third day of December,

among

among the ten oldeſt keelmen
reſident in the hoſpital,
was left by
JOHN SIMPSON, Eſq. of Bradley,
alderman of the town,
and forty years governor of the hoaſtmen's company.
The grateful objects of his remembrance
have cauſed this ſtone to be erected,
that poſterity may know
the donor's worth,
and be ſtimulated to follow
an example ſo benevolent.

Various attempts were made to reduce the propoſed penny a tide by each keelman, to ſome conſiſtent and effectual plan, during many years, but all proved abortive; ſo that the real keelmen who belonged to that ſociety, finding their number inadequate to ſupply the exigencies of their ſick and aged members, were obliged to extend their plan, and to permit landmen as well as watermen to become members. But very few keelmen, belonging to the many fitters and coal-owners on the river Tyne, chuſing to join this mixed ſociety, ſeveral of the more intelligent ſkippers and keelmen ſet about drawing up a ſcheme for a permanent reſource for the wants and neceſſities of their members. This ſcheme obtaining the approbation of the magiſtrates and fitters, an application was made to parliament; and, after due deliberation of that body, an act was paſſed, ſanctioning the ſcheme, with ſome judicious improvements.

Gratitude prompts us, on this occaſion, to tender our acknowledgments to Mr. Tinwell, for his readineſs in accommodating us with a copy of the act and by-laws, with whatever other information we wiſhed to be poſſeſſed of, reſpecting the keelmen's ſociety.

The

The by-laws, which are ſubjoined to the act, embrace ſo much wiſdom and humanity, that the reſources for the ſick and infirm of that body promiſe to be of a duration equal to that of the coal-trade itſelf.

The law for this benevolent purpoſe is intituled, "An act for eſtabliſhing a permanent fund, for the relief and ſupport of ſkippers and keelmen employed on the river Tyne, who by ſickneſs, or other accidental misfortunes, or by old age, ſhall not be able to maintain themſelves and their families; and alſo for the relief of the widows and children of ſuch ſkippers and keelmen."—This act was paſſed in the year 1788.

By the by-laws ſubjoined to the act, the weekly allowances to ſick or ſuperannuated members are follow:

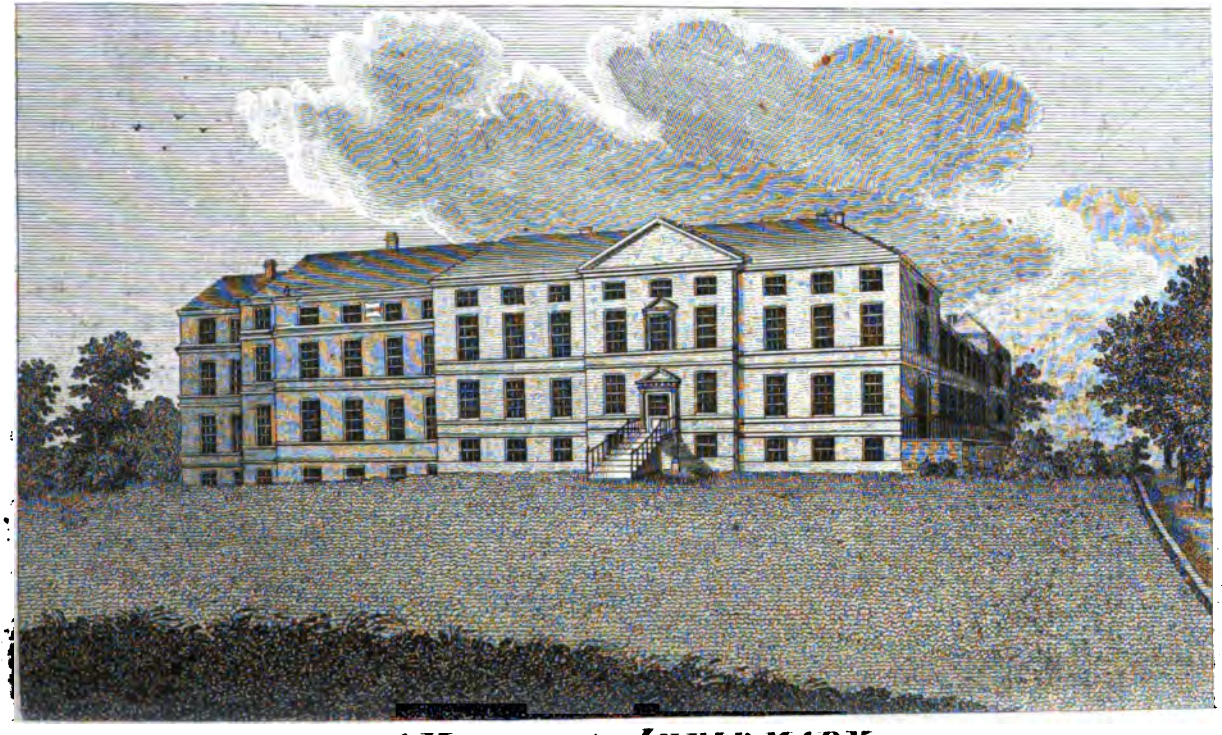
	£.	s.	d.
To thoſe who are diſabled by temporary lameneſs or ſickneſs - - - - - - -	0	5	0
To thoſe who are ſuperannuated or diſabled by age	0	3	3
To widows without children - - -	0	1	6
To widows having two children - - -	0	2	0
To widows having more than two children -	0	2	6

Superannuated members, unable to work at the keels, are allowed to obtain any other employment; but if they can thereby earn at the rate of four ſhillings per week or upwards, their allowance from the fund is then reduced according to the following table.

If earnings amount to	To receive from the fund
4s. per week and under 5s.	2s. 6d. per week.
5s. per week and under 6s.	2s. 0d. per week.
6s. per week and under 7s.	1s. 0d. per week.
7s. per week and under 8s.	Nothing.

If 8s. or more, they are to contribute 6d. per week to the fund.

THE



A VIEW of the INFIRMARY.

THE INFIRMARY.

Inſtant a glorious angel-train deſcends,
The Charities, to-wit, of roſy hue;
Sweet love their looks a gentle radiance lends,
And with ſeraphi flame compaſſion blends.
At once delighted to their charge they fly:
When, lo! a goodly hoſpital aſcends;
In which they bade each lenient aid be nigh,
That could the ſick-bed ſmooth of that ſad company.
It was a worthy edifying ſight,
And gives to human kind peculiar grace,
To ſee kind hands attending day and night,
With tender miniſtry from place to place;
Some prop the head; ſome from the pallid face
Wipe off the faint cold dews weak nature ſheds;
Some reach the healing draught; the whilſt, to chace
The fear ſupreme, around their ſoften'd beds
Some holy man, by prayer, all opening heaven diſpreds.

THOMSON'S CASTLE OF INDOLENCE.

In deſcribing this truly philanthropic and extenſive inſtitution, we cannot adopt a better mode than copying the moſt eſſential parts of the account recently publiſhed by authority of the governors.

"To counterbalance the various evils and miſeries of life," ſays an elegant and humane writer, "Providence has planted in our natures a benevolent principle, which inclines us, by an involuntary emotion, to relieve the diſtreſſes of our fellow-creatures, and gives us the pureſt and moſt ſenſible pleaſure for our reward." From the univerſal diffuſion of this amiable principle, few projects calculated to alleviate the ſufferings of the lower orders of ſociety have, in this age and nation, failed of meeting with effectual ſupport: and, perhaps, no part of the country has been more conſpicuous than the town and neigh-

bourhood of Newcaſtle, in patronizing eſtabliſhments for the relief of the poor, under the aggravated afflictions of want and diſeaſe.

" A ſlight ſketch of the origin and ſtate of the Infirmary will be a neceſſary introduction to the following account of the plan lately adopted for its extenſion and internal improvement.

The origin and preſent ſtate of the Infirmary.

" In the beginning of the year 1751, the members of a reſpectable ſociety in Newcaſtle reſolved, on account of the deaths of ſome, and the advancing age of others, of their body, to diſcontinue their ſtated meetings: but, previous to their doing ſo, to leave ſome permanent memorial of the ſociety having exiſted, by the propoſal of ſome project of public utility. On the day appointed for this benevolent purpoſe, the late eminent ſurgeon, Mr. Richard Lambert, then a young man, ſuggeſted the eſtabliſhment of an Infirmary; and this appearing more beneficial than any other project which had been preſented, met with the unanimous concurrence of the meeting.* In conſequence, a letter, ſigned K. B. was inſerted in the Newcaſtle papers, ſtrongly recommending a ſubſcription for effecting ſo deſirable an object. A ſubſcription was accordingly opened, on the 9th of Feb. 1751, and ſoon attracted the notice of the following diſtinguiſhed characters: the earl of Northumberland, the lord biſhop of Durham, lord Ravenſworth, Sir Walter Blackett, bart. George Bowes, eſq. the mayor of Newcaſtle, (Ralph Sowerby, eſq.) Sir T. Clavering,

* Mr. Joſeph Airey, Mr. George and Mr. Ralph Headlam, and Mr. Richard Burdus, were alſo members of this ſociety, and the earlieſt benefactors to the Infirmary.

Clavering, bart. Sir Henry Grey, bart. and Matthew Ridley, eſq. To introduce the names of all the benefactors to this uſeful eſtabliſhment would far exceed the limits preſcribed to this ſketch: but, in grateful teſtimony of the benevolence of the original contributors to the building, a liſt of their names and donations is ſubjoined.

"On the 21ſt of March, 1751, it was reſolved to carry the charity into immediate effect; and, in the mean time, a temporary houſe, capable of holding twenty-three beds, was hired; and application was made to the corporation for a piece of ground on the Forth banks, on which the Infirmary now ſtands.

"On the 5th of September the firſt ſtone of the building was laid by the Right Rev. Dr. Joſeph Butler, lord biſhop of Durham; and on the 8th of Oct. 1752, the edifice being completely fitted up, was opened for the reception of patients.

"The Infirmary ſtands in an open, dry, elevated ſituation, at a ſhort diſtance from the town, and from the river Tyne. The out-grounds are convenient, and command a pleaſing proſpect of the adjoining country. The building is of ſtone, and preſents a plain but elegant front to the ſouth; from the eaſtern extremity there runs northward a ſpacious wing fronting the eaſt. The principal, or ſouth front, contains four ſtories, the baſement, the ground floor, the chamber, and the attic. The wing is two ſtories high, with an attic ward at its northern extremity. The ground floor is thirteen feet, the chamber twelve, and the attic ſtory nine feet high. The offices are placed behind the front and the wing, with which they nearly form a quadrangle, incloſing a ſquare

paved yard; but the offices being low, the Infirmary, from without, is capable of a complete ventilation.

" With reſpect to interior arrangements, it has hitherto had all the faults of the older hoſpitals. Some of the wards are too large, and all of them too much crowded. The galleries in the wing, which ought to have acted as ventilators to the houſe, being cloſed up at one end, the ventilation is completely obſtructed; while an ill-contrived neceſſary, placed in each, contaminates the air. One room only is ſet apart for the reception of a ſingle patient, when affected with a dangerous diſeaſe: and it is allotted for thoſe who have undergone the operation of lithotomy. All the bedſteads in the houſe are made of wood, and have flock-mattraſſes.

Plan for the internal improvement and extenſion of the Infirmary.

" From this account of the interior arrangements of the Infirmary, it will appear, that it has hitherto been by no means ſo well calculated as might have been wiſhed, for giving relief in thoſe diſeaſes in which quiet, reſt, and pure air, are eſſential to recovery. In large wards, where mutual miſery and diſturbance continually prevail, the diſeaſes of patients are often in danger of being rather aggravated, than remedied or relieved.

' A queſtion then naturally occurs, ' Are theſe evils neceſſarily and inſeparably attached to Infirmaries? Or do they ſpring from faults which are capable of being rectified?' With a view to attract the attention and known humanity of the ſupporters of this inſtitution to the conſideration of a queſtion ſo important, a printed paper, in the form of a letter,

was

was tranſmitted by Dr. Clark to every governor, on the 11th of June, 1801, containing the 'reſult of an enquiry into the ſtate of various Infirmaries; a comparative view of the ſucceſs of the practice in the improved, and in the older hoſpitals; and a propoſal for the internal improvement and extenſion of that at Newcaſtle.'

"In conſequence of the remarks contained in this paper, the following governors, together with the phyſicians and ſurgeons of the charity, were, at a ſpecial court held on Thurſday, June 25, (Sir M. W. Ridley, bart. M. P. in the chair) appointed a committee, 'for the purpoſe of conſidering the expediency of the propoſed internal government of the Infirmary, procuring plans of the propoſed extenſion of the building, and eſtimates of the expences attending the ſame, and cauſing a report of their proceedings and opinion thereon to be printed and circulated among the governors, previous to the anniverſary meeting in Auguſt:" *viz.*

Thomas Bigge, eſq.	James Loſh, eſq.
Nathaniel Clayton, eſq.	Charles Ogle, eſq.
Thomas Gibſon, eſq.	Rev. Dr. Proſſer.
Tho. E. Headlam, eſq.	R. H. Williamſon, eſq.
Anth. Hopper, eſq.	Nich. Walton, eſq,
William Lloyd, eſq.	Rev. Jona. Walton.

"On the 21ſt of July, the above committee, having previouſly with great attention examined the internal ſtate of the Infirmary, circulated among the governors a moſt important report on the defects of the Infirmary, and the moſt effectual means of remedying them.

"The principal cauſe of the contamination of the air in the whole houſe," the committee obſerve, "ariſes

"ariſes from the long ward on the ground floor of the wing (containing twenty beds), and that immediately adjoining (containing ſeven beds), which from their ſituation will not admit of being converted into well-aired lodging rooms." They propoſe "to convert theſe into phyſicians' and ſurgeons' conſulting rooms, a waiting hall for the patients, and a diſpenſary, (all of which neceſſary accommodations are at preſent very imperfect) and to remove an extremely offenſive neceſſary in the paſſage." The committee conſider the long ward on "the ſecond floor of the wing (containing twenty-three beds) capable of complete ventilation, by ſubſtituting a water-cloſet for the neceſſary, opening the gallery at each end, and dividing the ward into three apartments, containing ſix beds each. The adjoining ward on the ſame floor of the wing, they would convert into a dining-room for the female patients; and that immediately above, into a comfortable apartment for three patients."

The wards in the front appeared alſo "too much crowded, and in ſummer to ſuffer much from the heat of the ſun." The committee propoſe, "that inſtead of eleven, theſe wards ſhall contain only ſeven beds each, and that every window have ſtrong Venetian blinds on the outſide. Alſo that two ſmall rooms, now differently occupied, be converted into wards, each to contain two beds."

"To obtain a ſucceſſion of pure, freſh air," they recommend, "that every window have a portion of each pane in the top of the upper ſaſh cut away, and a frame of glaſs placed on a croſs bar, moveable on it by hinges, ſo as to make a greater or leſs angle with the window, and conſequently to admit more

or

or leſs air at pleaſure, riſing towards the cieling.† Alſo that apertures be made through the walls into the gallery, oppoſite to the windows in each ward; having doors turning on ſwivels, which may, if neceſſary, be locked, to prevent the patients from ſhutting them."

"As bedſteads conſtructed of wood are prolific ſources for the propagation of vermin, and as complete cleanlineſs cannot be effected in Infirmaries where ſuch furniture is uſed," the committee alſo propoſe to have "all the bedſteads made of hammered iron, with joints, to turn up in the day time, and to ſtand with their heads againſt the wall. Some of the iron bedſteads, in every ward, to have a ſcrew to raiſe or lower the back, for altering the poſition of patients when in a weak ſtate."

"Having pointed out theſe improvements, the committee declare it to be their "decided opinion, that the air can never be kept pure, if more than fifty patients are admitted into the old building. Accommodations will therefore be wanting for thirty-four in-patients, according to the preſent eſtabliſhment, as well as ſeparate rooms for patients under dan-

† Still more effectually to diffuſe the air equally, it is propoſed to convey it from without, by a wooden tube placed under the floor, and opening into the middle of each room, with a valve to ſhut at pleaſure; and to carry off the vitiated air, by means of an aperture and valve in the cieling, immediately above the opening in the floor below, communicating with a ſimilar tube, which terminates in a brick funnel, running parallel with the chimney, to the top of the building. In calm weather, or when the atmoſphere in any of the wards becomes tainted by particular diſeaſes of the patients, it is propoſed to fix a ſtove grate in every funnel in the garret, to accelerate the motion of the air, and carry off contagious vapours.

dangerous diſeaſes, and after operations of magnitude, when perfect *quiet* and *pure air* are ſo eſſential to recovery." To embrace theſe important objects, and to place this charity on a footing with the moſt approved Infirmaries, the committee propoſe "an extenſion of the building."

In planning this extenſion, it was the leading object to effect complete ventilation both in the new and in the old houſe. For this reaſon the quadrangular form has been avoided, and the new building, inſtead of being added as a wing correſpondent to the other, is to commence immediately where the front galleries of the preſent building terminate towards the weſt. Each ſtory is to conſiſt of a ſingle row of wards, and a gallery,† which will have a ſouthern aſpect, and will communicate with thoſe of the old houſe; by which means a thorough ventilation of both buildings will be ſecured; while the new wards will not only enjoy the benefit of every contrivance for ventilation which has already been mentioned, but, having a northern aſpect, will be protected from the inconvenience of the heat in ſummer, experienced in the old houſe. Still more effectually to ſecure a ſupply of freſh, pure air, ventilating croſs galleries, with a fire place in each, are propoſed to be conſtructed in the ſecond and third ſtories, between the new and the old building. Theſe are alſo to ſerve the purpoſe of dining-rooms for the male patients, and ſuch patients as are able to ſit up are to remain in them ſome hours daily, during which

† The new building will be one hundred and twenty-five feet long, and the gallery ſix feet ſix inches broad; in which the patients will be allowed to walk when the weather is wet.

which time their bedding is to be carried into the open air, and the wards expoſed to ventilation.

" The committee having paid ſo much attention to the obtaining ſupplies of pure, freſh air, and alſo to its equal diſtribution, have further recommended that a uſeful invention of Mr. Moſer's ſhould be introduced in the conſtruction of the new building, by which atmoſpheric air, paſſing through a ſquare opening made in the wall on a level with the floor in the baſement ſtory, is heated by a ſand-bath, and is conveyed, by earthen tubes placed perpendicularly, into the galleries, and thence into the wards.

" Each ward, containing ſix bedſteads, will have two windows in front, and alſo two ſaſhed windows in the back wall, in a direct line with thoſe in the front and in the gallery. The wards with two beds will have each a window in front, and alſo in the back wall, in the ſame direction. By this means the moſt complete thorough ventilation may be obtained at all times. The baſement ſtory, eleven feet high, will contain hot, cold, vapour, and ſhower baths, a laundry, and other requiſite offices. The ſecond and third ſtories, fourteen feet high, will contain four wards, each twenty-five by twenty-four, capable of holding ſix beds each; and the fourth ſtory, five rooms, each twenty-five by twelve, in which are to be lodged only one patient, and a convaleſcent or a nurſe. Theſe rooms are to be allotted to patients in dangerous complaints, or after operations of magnitude, and are therefore properly placed on the ſame floor with the operation-room.

" To the weſt end of the new building it is propoſed to annex two wards with ſix bedſteads each, and two wards with two bedſteads each, together with a

kitchen, waſh-houſe, and water-cloſet, for infectious fevers of accidental occurrence. There will be a door at the end of the gallery, communicating with the ſtair-caſe belonging to theſe wards, for the convenience of removing patients from the Infirmary, but which, afterwards, will be kept ſhut, to prevent the contagion from ſpreading.

"Every floor in the new houſe will have a nurſe's room, ſcullery, and water-cloſet, conveniently ſituated, and abundantly ſupplied with water from a large leaden ciſtern, placed on the top of the new building, where it joins the old Infirmary. From this ciſtern the wards in the new building, and water-cloſets and wards in the old houſe, are alſo to be ſupplied; by which means cleanlineſs will be more readily and expeditiouſly effected.

"The committee preſented the report, of which the above is an abridged account, to a ſpecial court held on the 4th of Auguſt, 1801, (Sir M. W. Ridley, bart. M. P. in the chair) when, after mature deliberation, and examination of the plans and elevation of the propoſed new building, the following motions, among ſeveral others, were made by Sir J. E. Swinburne, bart. and unanimouſly agreed to:

"1. That this court, being of opinion that the Infirmary, in its preſent ſtate, is but ill calculated to anſwer the benevolent purpoſes of ſuch an inſtitution, do approve of the report of the committee, dated 21ſt July.

"2. That a ſubſcription be entered into, for the purpoſe of carrying into execution the plan propoſed by the ſaid committee, for the improvement and extenſion of the Infirmary."

"The

"The following gentlemen, in addition to the former committee, viz. Sir M. W. Ridley, bart. M. P. C. J. Brandling, eſq. M. P. the hon. C. Grey, M. P. T. R. Beaumont, eſq M. P. Sir R. Milbanke, bart. M. P. Rowland Burdon, eſq. M P. the mayor of Newcaſtle, Samuel Lawton, eſq. and the rev. Fred. Ekins, were appointed a committee for improvement, with full powers to carry into effect the objects contained in the report.

"The ſubſcription was opened by a draft for 500l. incloſed in a letter to Mr. Ingham, from the duke of Northumberland, in which his grace expreſſes, in the moſt polite terms, his high opinion of the utility of the Infirmary, and his wiſh that the propoſed improvements might be carried into effect. The ſums ſubſcribed at this court exceeded 1600l.

"On the 23d of September the foundation-ſtone of the new building was laid by Sir M. W. Ridley, bart. M. P. as repreſentative, upon this occaſion, of his grace the duke of Northumberland. The ſubſcription, at this time, amounted to 2,817l. 3s. and it is a pleaſing circumſtance to remark, that the repreſentatives of the moſt diſtinguiſhed families, connected with the intereſts of the three counties of Newcaſtle, Durham, and Northumberland, have, with the utmoſt liberality, humanely contributed to carry into perfection this benevolent inſtitution, eſtabliſhed by their anceſtors."

It is with unmixed, encreaſing ſatisfaction, that the mind "who ſuffers in another's woe," dwells upon the efforts of the charitable, and the ſkilfully humane, to alleviate, if not completely remove, the numerous calamities which often are the lot of ſuf-

fering humanity; and on that account we have been rather copious in our extracts from the authentic plan of the admirable inſtitution of the public Infirmary of Newcaſtle, both in its original ſtate, and in its intended improvements, which are rapidly going forward. We ſhall, therefore, only lay before our readers a very few more intereſting obſervations, ſelected from the detailed account of this noble charity, politely communicated to us by Mr. Airey, the ſecretary.

In peruſing the reports of the profeſſional gentlemen, who, in order to procure every degree of uſeful information, have compared the plans of Infirmaries, not only in Great Britain, but of the moſt eminent in France, Germany, Italy, &c. we cannot withhold our mite of grateful acknowledgment for their laudable, and we hope ſucceſsful, induſtry, in their reports recently publiſhed.

The neceſſity and importance of the principal improvements of the Infirmary are comprehended under the following regulations.

1. Accommodation for in-patients.
2. Reduction of the number of patients in the wards.
3. Regulated ventilation.
4. Cleanlineſs.
5. The ſeparation of patients, and their diviſion and arrangement according to diſeaſe.
6. Diſeaſes which are proper for reception into an Infirmary, and thoſe which ought not to be received.
7. Improvement of the medical ſcience.
8. Medical library, and anatomical preparations.

Then follows a candid and plain ſtatement of the finances of the Infirmary, and the expence to be incurred by its improvement and extenſion. From lega-

legacies, benefactions, &c. the preſent annual income amounts to one thouſand three hundred and ſixty-ſix pounds eighteen ſhillings. The new improvements will coſt four thouſand pounds.

The following is a liſt of the original ſubſcribers towards building the Infirmary in the year 1751.

	£.	
Dr. Butler, biſhop of Durham, 100l. for five years, and towards the building	50	0
Earl of Northumberl.	200	0
Sir Walter Blackett, bt.	200	0
Biſhop of Glouceſter	100	0
Lady Windſor	100	0
Lord Ravenſworth	100	0
Lord Crewe's truſtees	100	0
Mrs. Tomlinſon, relict of the Rev. Dr. Tomlinſon, of Whickham	100	0
Meſſrs. Davidſons and Milbank	100	0
Quarterly meeting of people called Quakers, Durham	70	0
John Steavenſon, eſq.	52	10
Launcelot Allgood, eſq.	50	0
Matthew Ridley, eſq.	50	0
Matthew White, eſq.	50	0
Dr. Rotheram, of Hexham, in part of the produce of a courſe of experimental philoſophy by him given for the benefit of this charity	42	0
Matthew Bell, eſq.	31	10
Thomas Daviſon, eſq.	31	10
John Daviſon, eſq.	30	0
William Ord, eſq.	21	0
Mr. T. Crozier, London	21	0
Mrs. Martha White	21	0
B. K. a perſon unknown	20	0
Mrs. Whitfield	20	0
Richard Wilkinſon, eſq. Durham	20	0
Mrs. Grace Ord	15	15
Rev. Dr. Bland	10	10
Percival Clennell, eſq.	10	10
Miſs Clennell	10	10
Richard Grieve, eſq. of Alnwick	10	10
Mr. S. Handcock	10	10
Mrs. Liddell, of Newton	10	10
Mr. Daniel Hodgſon	10	10
Sir Hugh Lawſon, bart.	10	10
Rev. Dr. Eden	10	10
John Airey, eſq.	10	10
Hen. Tho. Carr, eſq.	10	10
Chriſt. Fawcett, eſq.	10	10
John Williams, eſq.	10	10

Sub-

Subscribers towards the present extension and improvement of the Infirmary, up to Nov. 6, 1801.

	£.	s.
D. of Northumberl.	500	0
Sir J. E. Swinburne, bt.	100	0
Sir M. W. Ridley, bart.	100	0
Lady Ridley	100	0
Sir C. Monck, bart.	100	0
Sir T. H. Liddell, bart.	100	0
G. J. Brandling, esq.	100	0
William Ord, esq.	100	0
Matthew Bell, esq.	100	0
T. R. Beaumont, esq.	100	0
The Corporation of Newcastle	100	0
Lord bishop of Durham	100	0
Lord Delaval	100	0
Earl of Tankerville	100	0
Earl of Strathmore	100	0
Admiral Roddam	100	0
Alex. Davison, esq.	100	0
Earl Cowper	52	10
William Peareth, esq.	50	0
Hon. C. Grey, M. P.	50	0
Mrs. Harrison	50	0
H. U. Reay, esq.	50	0
C. W. Bigge, esq.	50	0
William Hargrave, esq.	50	0
Rowland Burdon, esq.	50	0
M. W. Ridley, esq.	50	0
William Surtees, esq.	50	0
Sir R. Milbanke, bart.	50	0
John Silvertop, esq.	50	0
William Russell, esq.	50	0
Calverley Bewicke, esq.	50	0
John Graham Clarke, esq.	25	0
Isaac Cookson, esq.	25	0
John Walker, esq.	25	0
Charles Ogle, esq.	21	0
Nicholas Walton, esq.	21	0
Dr. Clarke	21	0
William Ingham, esq.	21	0
James Scott, esq.	21	0
Nathaniel Clayton, esq.	21	0
Rev. John Fawcett	21	0
Thomas Simpson, esq.	21	0
Alexander Adams, esq.	21	0
Joseph Forster, esq.	21	0
John T. Bigge, esq.	21	0
R. H. Williamson, esq.	21	0
Mr. Robert Ormston	20	0
Mr. John Barras	10	10
Thomas Maude, esq.	10	10
T. E. Headlam, esq.	10	10
Rev. F. Ekins	10	10
Thomas Bigge, esq.	10	10
H. Ibbetson, esq.	10	10
Mrs. Ibbetson	10	10
George Lake, esq.	10	10
Rev. Dr. Prosser	10	10
Anthony Hopper, esq.	10	10
Mr. Edward Walker	10	0
Samuel Lawton, esq.	5	5
Mr. Smith	5	5
James Losh, esq.	5	5
W. O. W. Ogle, esq.	5	5
Mr Thomas Watets	5	5
Mr William Lloyd	5	5
Rev. J. Walton	5	5
Job Bulman, esq.	5	5
Mr. F. Horn	5	5
Mr. Caleb Angas	5	5
Mrs. Jobling	5	5
Barber-Surgeons' Comp.	5	5
Mr. John Patterson	2	2
Mr. John Airey	2	2
Mr. H. Johnson	1	1

Then

Then follow the ſtatutes and rules for the government of this charity. Theſe regulations, one hundred and twenty in all, do great credit to the judgment and humanity of the governors, and of the medical and ſurgical members.

Upon the whole, when the new erections ſhall be completed, if not the largeſt, we have no doubt it will be one of the moſt uſeful and beſt regulated in Europe.

The preſent eſtabliſhment of the Infirmary is as follows.

GRAND VISITOR,

THE LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM.

PRESIDENTS,

Duke of Northumberland,	Duke of Portland,
Earl of Tankerville,	Duke of Richmond,
Earl of Darlington,	Mayor of Newcaſtle.

VICE PRESIDENTS,

Sir Henry Grey, bart.	Earl of Strathmore,
Sir Mat. White Ridley, bart.	Charles Brandling, eſq.
Sir Tho. Hen. Liddell, bart.	Thomas Richard Beaumont, eſq.

TREASURER, Thomas Maude, Eſq.

PHYSICIANS.	SURGEONS.
John Clark, M. D	Mr. Richard Bryan Abbs,
James Wood, M. D.	Mr. William Ingham,
John Ramſey, M. D.	Mr. Richard Keenlyſide,
Robert Steavenſon, M. D.	Mr. Frederick Horn.
APOTHECARY,	SECRETARY,
Mr. William Jackſon.	Mr. John Airey.
CHAPLAIN,	MATRON,
Rev. John Elliſon.	Mrs. Mary Jackſon.

The total number of patients *cured* ſince the commencement of the Infirmary was, on the 2d of April, 1801, *thirty-three thouſand and twenty ſeven*; beſides a great number annually diſcharged *relieved*.

THE

THE DISPENSARY.

This very humane inſtitution was firſt opened on October 2, 1777, in a houſe in Pilgrim-ſtreet. But, upon the funds for ſupporting this laudable charity accumulating, the governors were enabled to make a purchaſe of the Maſon's Lodge, in Low Friar-ſtreet. This is an elegant and well-finiſhed ſtructure, and perfectly adapted for a Diſpenſary. It is adorned with a fine front, on which is cut out the date of the commencement of the inſtitution.

We will not enter tediouſly into an enumeration of the regulations of this charity, but curſorily note ſome of the moſt important to be known by the inhabitants.

In general, "the deſign of this inſtitution is to adminiſter advice and medicines to the poor confined to their own habitations by ſickneſs." The limits for viſiting the patients are Shields road bridge to the eaſtward, and the utmoſt extent of the town to the weſt, north, and ſouth, including the borough of Gateſhead.

The objects of this Diſpenſary are to be ſuch poor inhabitants as cannot receive proper relief from the Newcaſtle Infirmary, either on account of the nature of their diſeaſe, or when unſafe for them to wait till the day of admiſſion.

The apothecary is to reſide at the Diſpenſary, to receive letters of recommendation, and to keep a regiſter of the patients; but is not to practiſe out of the Diſpenſary on his own account.

The mayor, or any of the aldermen, are to recommend for the corporation, and the ſtewards for the members of their company.

Each

Each ſubſcriber of a guinea has a power of recommending four patients annually; two guineas, eight; and, when paid annually, conſtitutes the ſubſcriber a governor. Ten guineas at one payment conſtitute a governor for life, with a right to recommend eight patients.

Such was the original plan of this admirable charity, as inſtituted 1777. It, no doubt, will afford the compaſſionate and humane ſingular pleaſure to ſee, by the ſubſequent abſtract from the account recently publiſhed, the gradual and encreaſing ſucceſs of this Diſpenſary, from its inſtitution to Michaelmas 1801.

Its preſent eſtabliſhment is as follows:

PATRON,
THE DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

PRESIDENTS,

Marquis of Bute,	Charles Brandling, eſq.
Sir Mat. White Ridley, bart.	George Baker, eſq.
Sir Tho. Hen. Liddell, bart.	Joſeph Forſter, eſq. mayor.

VICE PRESIDENTS,

Ralph Carr, eſq.	Ralph Atkinſon, eſq.
Rowland Burdon, eſq.	Rev. Dr. Proſſer.

TREASURER,	SECRETARY,
Matthew Liddell, eſq.	Mr. Robert Doubleday.

PHYSICIANS.

Dr. Clark,	Dr. Wood,
Dr. Young,	Dr. Steavenſon,
Dr. Ramſay,	Dr. Pearſon.

SURGEON.	VISITING SURGEON.
Mr. Anderſon.	Mr. Murray.

APOTHECARY, Mr. Wilkie.

The report obſerves, that this charity embraces three important objects, viz. *relieving diſeaſes in general,*

neral, promoting inoculation, and *reſtoring ſuſpended animation by drowning*, &c. Theſe are divided into three departments.

"The number of patients admitted in the courſe of the preſent year (1801), and the ſucceſs of the practice in their ſeveral diſeaſes, are exhibited in an annexed table; and when it is compared with thoſe formerly publiſhed, it will appear that, ſince the commencement of the charity, *thirty-ſix thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſeven* patients have been admitted, of whom *thirty-three thouſand ſeven hundred and forty-two* have been cured.

"From this table it alſo appears, that *four hundred and twenty-five* patients, labouring under fevers, were admitted during the courſe of the year. The unuſual prevalence of this diſeaſe, not in Newcaſtle, but in moſt of the large towns in the kingdom, can only be imputed to the ſcarcity, the bad quality, and the high price, of proviſions. The harveſt in 1800 was late; the grain and potatoes damaged; and therefore the food of the poor has not only been ſcanty, but afforded little nutriment. It has, however, fortunately happened, that the fever was tractable; and, from the exertions of this charity, few died. But the good effects of this department of the Diſpenſary have not been confined to the poor alone, who are its immediate objects; for in *fevers*, and other *infectious diſeaſes*, rules of prevention are carried into execution; by which means contagion has often been entirely ſuppreſſed, and its propagation, if not always prevented, kept within narrow limits. Hence Newcaſtle, for many years paſt, has been, in a great meaſure, exempted from epidemic diſeaſes."

In

In even the moſt fatal of all diſeaſes, ſuch as dropſies, palſies, and other diſorders proceeding from worn-out conſtitutions, or the decays of old age, where, though death is inevitable, yet humanity will prompt the phyſicians, ſurgeons, and apothecary, to contribute every aid from medicine, to ſoften and alleviate painful ſymptoms. In doing ſo, theſe ſkilful profeſſional men will have their reward in their own breaſts!

INOCULATION.---Since the commencement of the Diſpenſary, *three thouſand and forty-four* have been inoculated, of which only *ſix* died. The natural ſmall-pox uſually carries off *one* in *ſix*. "Therefore, had the number above inoculated taken the natural diſeaſe, *five hundred and ſeven* would have died; and if the ſix patients who died under the different inoculations be deducted from the laſt numbers, *five hundred and one* will remain, as the lives ſaved by inoculation."

"A moſt providential diſcovery having been made, that the cow-pox, a diſeaſe to which that animal is ſubject in ſome of the ſouthern counties of this iſland, when taken by perſons who milked the cow, rendered them ever afterwards unſuſceptible of receiving the infection; which being eſtabliſhed by various and numerous inoculations of the matter from the cow-pock; it alſo appearing that the *vaccine* was attended with much leſs riſk than the *variolous* inoculation, and that patients under the cow-pox did not propagate contagion; it was judged an indiſpenſible duty to adopt this practice at the Diſpenſary."

The firſt *vaccine* inoculation was performed in the ſpring of this preſent year; the ſucceſs of which has

proved greater than even the moſt ſanguine mind expected; for, of *two hundred and fifteen* children inoculated, only *two* failed in taking the diſeaſe, and all of them happily recovered.

"It was purpoſed to ſubject a ſufficient number of the children, who had undergone the *vaccine* pox, to *variolous* inoculation, in order to confirm, by ocular evidence, the certainty of the former being an antidote to the latter diſeaſe. But ſuch was the prejudice of the parents, that only two of the children who had paſſed through the cow-pox were allowed to be inoculated for the ſmall-pox, and it produced no diſeaſe. But we are happy in adding, that the ſafety and ſecurity of *vaccine* inoculation now ſtands upon a very broad baſis of experiment; for it appears, from the report of the Vaccine Society, inſtituted in London, which has been lately publiſhed, that of *ſixty thouſand* perſons who have been already inoculated, it is doubtful whether *four* have died; and that of *ten thouſand* who have been re-inoculated with the ſmall-pox, *not a ſingle well-atteſted caſe* has been produced of the patient having taken the diſtemper."

We ſhall cloſe our account of the Diſpenſary by obſerving, that in the preſervative department the governors have alſo diſplayed their philanthropy, in providing and placing in proper houſes the neceſſary inſtruments and medicines for reſtoring ſuſpended animation. The faculty in Newcaſtle, Shields, Howden-pans, Winlaton, Swalwell, and Newburn, are medical aſſiſtants; and ſuch plain directions have been publiſhed, that any ſpectator may render aſſiſtance to a fellow-creature on the firſt emergency.

LYING-

LYING-IN HOSPITAL,

For poor Married Women.

This compaſſionate inſtitution was firſt opened in Roſemary-lane, October 1, 1760. The hoſpital is ſituated in a retired ſpot, healthy and airy, and very ſuitable for the purpoſe. The accommodations, attention, and delicacy towards the patients, are, like the other humane inſtitutions of Newcaſtle, laudable and exemplary.

This is over the front door:--*Licenſed for the public reception of pregnant women, purſuant to an act of parliament paſſed in the 13th year of the reign of George the third.*

On the inner ſide of the main door there is an inſcription over a charity-box, truly appoſite:

"BECAUSE THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR HER IN THE INN."

The following is the eſtabliſhment.

PRESIDENT,
THE DUKE OF PORTLAND.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

Sir Matt. W. Ridley, bart.	Ralph Carr, eſq.
Charles Brandling, eſq.	Maſter of the Trinity-houſe.
TREASURER,	CHAPLAIN,
Mr. James Atkinſon.	Rev. M. Manners.
PHYSICIAN,	SURGEON,
Dr. Wood.	Mr. Bowes Fenwick.
MATRON and MIDWIFE,	For OUT-PATIENTS,
Mrs. Elizabeth Reed.	Twelve Midwives.

The rules in general are ſimilar to thoſe of the other charitable inſtitutions, but upon a ſmaller ſcale. Women are to be recommended by ſubſcribers, and muſt produce certificates of their marriage. If ſuddenly taken ill, the matron muſt attend them at their

their own habitations, or there is a chair provided by the charity to convey them to the hoſpital.

The phyſician and ſurgeon, both ſkilled in midwifery, are to deliver the women in all difficult caſes, inſtruct the midwives, and act in their reſpective capacities.

The matron muſt be a midwife, and deliver in ordinary caſes.

The number admitted ſince the firſt opening to the preſent time amounts to upwards of 2,000.

In the year 1761, a ſimilar charity was inſtituted for poor lying-in women at their own houſes in Newcaſtle and Gateſhead. They enjoy the aid of the midwife in ordinary caſes; and in caſes difficult and dangerous, two ſurgeons attend. They have every neceſſary ſupport during the month, with ſome pecuniary gratuity to aid the family while the mother is thus incapacitated.

It pains humanity to be informed, that, owing to the death of ſeveral of the principal ſubſcribers, &c. and the late heavy preſſures, the funds are in a languiſhing ſtate. Ye bounteous and liberal-minded fair ones, remember "*your ſiſters of low degree!*" and relieve the wants of their poor, helpleſs, young families, when in a ſtate, which, however painful, it is the wiſh and pride of every female to be. "*Give me children, or I die!*" ſaid one of your ſex in ancient times. She obtained her wiſh, and died in conſequence!

The greateſt of the patriarchs *entertained angels unawares*. You, by kind relief, may be the means of bringing a future NEWTON or a LOCKE into the world, to be the ornaments of their admiring country.

FRIEND-

FRIENDLESS POOR SOCIETY.

A benevolent inſtitution was formed in this town in the year 1797, the object of which is to afford relief to the friendleſs poor, and to diſſeminate the principles of virtue and religion among the lower orders of the people. It is chiefly patronized by the diſſenting miniſters; but we are ſorry to ſay, that its funds are not in ſo flouriſhing a ſtate, as ſuch a truly laudable ſociety merits. Their place of meeting is at the Baptiſt chapel, Tuthil-ſtairs.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

From the hoſpitals of thoſe labouring under the afflictions of the *body*, we come to the deſcription of thoſe appropriated to ſuch as are overwhelmed with the infinitely worſe diſorder of the *mind*. Babylon, Perſepolis, Palmyra, in ruins; their palaces, temples, ſtately columns, overthrown in duſt, are not, to the ſympathiſing eye, a ſight ſo afflicting, as the ruins of the *human intellect*!†

October 7, 1765, it having been repreſented to the corporation of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, that a piece of ground

† Dr. Charteris, in his admirable ſermon on Alms, obſerves, that Dean Swift, feeling in himſelf ſymptoms of approaching lunacy, laid out twelve thouſand pounds, which he had ſaved, on endowing an hoſpital for ſuch as ſhould be afflicted with this frightful calamity. The celebrated Dr. Young tells us, in his *Conjectures on Original Compoſition*, that Addiſon, Pope, and himſelf, being in Ireland, on a viſit to the dean, and taking a walk out with him to a field, they obſerved him fall behind them for an unuſual time, and "I going back," ſays Dr. Young, "found him like a ſtatue with his eyes fixed upon a tree blaſted at the top."

ground was wanted for the ſite of an hoſpital, intended to be erected in or near to that town, for lunatics belonging to the counties of Northumberland, Durham, and Newcaſtle, the Warden's Cloſe, a field without the walls of the town, between Newgate and Weſtgate, having been judged the moſt proper ſituation for it, a committee of the common-council was appointed to portion off a part thereof for that purpoſe; upon whoſe report that they had meaſured and ſtaked out a plot of ground for the ſite of the intended hoſpital, the corporation ordered a leaſe to be granted in truſt from the Chriſtmas-day following, for the term of ninety-nine years, under an annual rent of two ſhillings and ſixpence: as alſo leave for a paſſage into Gallowgate for the convenience of the ſaid hoſpital.—*Common-council books.*

This building is in a retired ſituation, airy and healthful. The conveniences are numerous; the treatment of the unhappy patients humane, and ſuitable to their ſituations; from whence many have returned perfectly recovered. It is under the direction of Robert Wood, M. D.

Another, named Belgrove, (formerly St. Luke's) upon a ſmaller ſcale, is erected on the Leazes, and is under the management of J. Steavenſon, M. D.

A third

top." "I ſhall be like that tree," ſaid he, with great emotion; "I ſhall die at top!" And ſoon after, he was removed, for incurable lunacy, to that very hoſpital, which he had humanely founded for others!—where, painful to relate! he was ſhewn to the gazing ſpectators for ſixpence a-piece! The monſter of a keeper, pointing at *him*, who was perhaps the moſt brilliant wit, and, in ſerious ſubjects, the moſt correct writer of his age, now ſtaring at the beholders with a hideous aſpect; "That maniac," ſaid he, "is *Dean Swift!*"

A third hoſpital of the ſame kind is built on the edge of Gateſhead common, at Benſham, and is directed by Robert Wood, M. D.

At all theſe hoſpitals the patients are treated with ſkill and humanity.

Without meaning the leaſt offence to the gentlemen who conduct the houſes of this deſcription here, of whom we have a very high opinion, we cannot help obſerving, in this place, that the plan adopted by Dr. Hunter, of York, in the treatment of maniacs, which has been ſo eminently ſucceſsful, is well worthy attention, and, we will venture to add, imitation, as it appears to be founded on an intimate acquaintance with the nature of the human mind. His method, we believe, differs eſſentially from that of moſt others. Relinquiſhing all coercive meaſures, and carefully removing from the unhappy patient all appearance of conſtraint, he aſſiſts their return to reaſon by a mild and gentle treatment. So numerous are the ſtages, and ſo highly diverſified the appearances of this melancholy diſorder, that to attempt a definition or deſcription of it would include a vaſt portion of the human race,—few, very few of whom have the benefit of medical aid; but, were this mode of treatment generally adopted by thoſe connected with them, might we not expect that their number would be greatly reduced? that the laſt ſad ſtage, when the patient is become totally unfit for commerce with his ſpecies, might be frequently averted; and medical aſſiſtance, in a great meaſure, rendered unneceſſary?

THE BATHS.

Man is not an aquatic animal: and yet, to have accompanied captain Cook, in his voyages in the

ſouthern ocean, and to have obſerved the natives, of both ſexes, of the Friendly and Sandwich iſlands, &c. almoſt inceſſantly ſwimming in the neighbouring ocean, and braving the waves when running frightfully high, either ſkimming over the liquid precipices, with all the facility of the finny race, or ſhooting through the baſis of watery mountains, and re-appearing on the ſummit of the waves, not only without diſmay, but enjoying the daring exertion with ſtrong expreſſions of ſatisfaction, and that too for many hours together, would almoſt induce us to believe, that man is more nearly allied to the ſcaly tribe than is generally imagined.

The celebrated Dr. Franklin, that friend of philoſophy and of man, obſerves, that the whole human frame is ſpecifically lighter than water, the head only excepted, which conſiſting principally of bone, ſtrong and compacted, for the defence of the brain, is conſequently heavier than its cubical ſize of water; and he adds, were it not from timidity, we cannot *naturally* ſink. He bids us look to the African, or the Indian, who can ſit, lie, and ſtand, almoſt on the ſurface of the ocean, in its calm or perturbed ſtate; or darting along, with a ſharp-pointed knife in his hand, can engage, in mortal combat, the voracious ſhark, and vanquiſh the ſcaly monſter in his own element! So that, if in this reſpect, it is not "conſcience," it is timidity, that "makes cowards of us all."

Bathing, therefore, muſt prove highly conducive to health; and medical men aſſure us, that, in many caſes, ariſing from a relaxed ſtate of the nervous ſyſtem, ſea-bathing is, in general, a ſovereign remedy. Swimming, however, muſt be the moſt certain mode of deriving advantage from bathing; as, by ſtretch-

ing

ing the limbs in the briny fluid, the whole ſyſtem of nerves, arteries, and veins, receive a new and invigorating tone, and the moſt pleaſing ſenſations pervade the whole frame.

> This is the pureſt exerciſe of health;
> . . . . . And that ſame Roman arm,
> Which roſe victorious o'er the conquer'd earth,
> Firſt learn'd, when tender, to ſubdue the wave.
>
> THOMSON'S SUMMER.

The public baths of this town are very pleaſantly ſituated without the Weſt-gate. They were built, a few years ago, by the late eminent phyſician, Dr. Hall. They are now the property of Edw. Kentiſh, M. D. who has made many neceſſary improvements, in reſpect both to particular conveniences, as alſo in the general appearance of the place. He has alſo added an apparatus for giving the gaſeous fluids, in diſeaſes for which their uſe experience has found ſalutary: and, in order to extend the benefits of the inſtitution, he has lately reduced the terms of bathing.

They conſiſt of medicated vapour baths, hot, tepid, or of Buxton temperature; together with encloſed cold baths for ladies and gentlemen; alſo a large open, or ſwimming bath, where young gentlemen acquire this neceſſary and uſeful art, free from the danger of thoſe fatal accidents which too frequently happen in large rivers, or deep ponds.

The ſituation is peculiarly inviting; it encloſes a large area, elegantly laid out with gravel-walks, bordered with a variety of fragrant flowers: the whole being ſurrounded and interſected with lines of ornamental ſhrubbery.

BENEFIT SOCIETIES.

Societies, of voluntary aſſociation, have been found, by experience, to anſwer the moſt valuable purpoſes. They tend greatly to leſſen the poor-rate, which has been, in many towns and counties, during the late preſſures, an intolerable burden upon the induſtrious and middling claſſes of the community.—They are alſo highly favourable in their moral influences upon the characters of their members. By operating as a ſtimulus to frugality and induſtry, they counteract the *pernicious tendency of parochial relief*, which manifeſtly encourages idleneſs and diſſipation. The lower claſs have little proſpect of being able, individually, to lay up a comfortable proviſion for old age; but by entering ſuch ſocieties, they may ſecure theſe ineſtimable advantages, without being *too much degraded*.* With theſe views, many a poor member depoſits here his ſhilling, when he has not another in the world. Indeed it is evident, that there are many, even in the loweſt ſtations, who would prefer ſupport erned by their own exertion, however painful or laborious, to that received from a pariſh.

They likewiſe actuate the members of which they the

* The benevolent Howard, count Rumford, Eden, Wood, Ruggles, &c. &c. in deſcribing the hiſtory and ſtate of the poor, have ſhewn pretty clearly, that much of the wretchedneſs, and many of the vices of the lower claſſes, in moſt of the civilized countries in Europe, may be attributed to their extreme poverty and conſequent *degradation*. The duc de Liancourt, in ſpeaking of the ſtate of morals in Pennſylvania, alſo ſays, "Criminal offences are rare, ſome theſts excepted, which are generally committed by people lately arrived from Europe, brought up in ignorance and penury, and whoſe morals generally improve as they acquire a ſmall property of their own."

are compoſed, with fraternal affection; and their wiſe and laudable regulations againſt vice and profaneneſs have tended to poliſh and civilize their manners, with more effect than even the ſtatute-laws of the realm. While their ſick and aged members are, in general, provided for with humanity and attention.

However diverſified the mode of their reſpective adminiſtration, the manner of conducting their annual meetings, or head-meeting days, the different ages of admitting or rejecting candidates, giving more or leſs to their ſick and aged, a greater or leſs ſum for funeral expences of deceaſed brethren or ſiſters, and legacies to their ſurviving relations or friends; however various theſe regulations are, yet one general principle pervades the whole,—a tendency to promote the general good of the ſociety, and embrace in its advantages all the members of which it is compoſed.

In general, a ſick or diſabled member is allowed ſix ſhillings per week during a certain ſpecified number of weeks; then reduced to one half that ſum, till the member, by a lingering diſorder, or diſability to work, has exhauſted all his ſick-money; he then becomes a penſioner for life, and commonly receives half-a-crown or three ſhillings per week. The funeral expences are about forty or fifty ſhillings, and ſometimes three pounds. The legacy to the widow is from ſix to ten pounds; with which ſhe frequently trades in a ſmall way, and, with the pariſh allowance, ſupports herſelf and her fatherleſs children.

There are between thirty and forty of theſe ſocieties of men in this town, which, together, conſiſt of not leſs than five thouſand members. It is ſuppoſed there are nearly the ſame number of female benefit

ſocieties,

ſocieties, which are; in general, more numerous than thoſe of the men.

To detail theſe circumſtances is far from being beneath the dignity of hiſtory. "*Homo ſum, et nihil humani a me alienum puto.*"---I am a man, and am concerned in whatever intereſts man,---was one of the fineſt ſayings of antiquity.

SCHOOLMASTER'S ASSOCIATION.

We have already mentioned the names of the ſchoolmaſters in Newcaſtle, and have obſerved how greatly the rich ſhops, warehouſes, and extenſive compting-houſes are indebted to that uſeful claſs of the community, for the accuracy and expedition with which their quondam pupils are capable of tranſacting buſineſs. We have only to obſerve further, reſpecting theſe gentlemen, that whilſt they, as clerks, direct the concerns of the numerous benefit ſocieties, they are not inattentive to their own.

November 19, 1774. was held (ſays Mr. Brand, in his 2d vol. p. 547) at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, the firſt meeting of the aſſociation of ſchoolmaſters in the north of England. The object of the ſociety, in this inſtitution, was the relief of their diſtreſſed and aged brethren, and their widows and orphans. He adds, in a note, "See a pamphlet, intitled, 'An Addreſs to the Public in behalf of the Aſſociation among Proteſtant Schoolmaſters,' &c.

The regulations obſerved in conducting the concerns of this inſtitution, are ſuch as became enlightened men to plan, and men of integrity to execute. We will not, however, trouble our readers with a detail of the rules of this aſſociation; only, they are upon

upon a more extenſive ſcale than that of the other ſocieties in Newcaſtle, as they do not limit their charity to a trifling legacy, but they ſettle upon the widow of a deceaſed brother ten, twelve, or fifteen, and ſoon they expect twenty pounds per annum for life. An aged or ſuperannuated member who has paid into the fund for a certain number of years, enjoys a ſettlement alſo, which relieves his wants in his infirm ſtate.

Their annual meeting is always at Robſon's inn, Pilgrim-ſtreet; where they dine, and enjoy that refined ſociality peculiar to enlightened minds. It is then generally after an enlivening glaſs or two, that any brother who intends publiſhing on any branch of ſcience, propoſes his intended work to the ſociety, when thoſe who approve of it generally ſubſcribe their names in its recommendation to the public, and adopt it in their own ſeminaries.

His grace the duke of Northumberland is the patron of this ſociety, and the rev. Mr. Farrer, preſident. To the credit of the latter gentleman it deſerves to be mentioned, that to his abilities and conduct in the important office which he fills, the ſociety is much indebted for its reſpectability and its preſent very flouriſhing ſtate.

We now conclude our account of theſe charitable inſtitutions; only obſerving, that they appeared to be of ſuch conſequence as to attract the attention of the legiſlature, who have, by an act, ſanctioned the regulations of theſe ſocieties, by paſſing a law in their favour.

CHAR-

CHRTERS, PRIVILEGES, &c.

From the antiquity, ſituation, fortifications, public buildings and inſtitutions of Newcaſtle, we proceed to give an account of its charters, privileges, civil government, incorporated companies, trade and commerce.

CHARTERS OF NEWCASTLE.

Excluſive charters to incorporated bodies of ſubjects, have been granted by the kings of England from a very remote period, and particularly to the townſmen of Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

William the Conqueror, and his ſons, were, on ſome occaſions, munificent, and granted many privileges to the town of Newcaſtle; but, although Doomſday-book gives an account of the rents, property, and emolumcnts, not only of all the individual freeholders in the realm, but alſo of the more opulent boroughs and towns, and of this town among others; yet we find no account of their enjoying any charter of excluſive privileges, during the reigns of the Norman line.

The firſt hint we have of any grant of this nature, is in the reign of Henry II. who, Anno Domini 1162, confirmed to the townſmen of Newcaſtle their eſtates, and exempted them from tolls and duties. It is therefore a miſtake in ſome to ſay, that this town had no privileges till the reign of king John. And beſides, in the third year of king John's reign, which

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was more than ten years before the town had a charter from that king, the town had great privileges; the men of Newcaſtle upon Tyne (as mentioned in that year in the great roll of Northumberland) paid one hundred marks and two palfreys: ſo having the town in their hands by the "old farm;" viz. as is there ſaid fifty pounds and ten ſhillings encreaſe, for confirmation of their liberties, which they had by the charter of Henry II. the king's father. *Bourne*, *p.* 184.

But the moſt explicit charter was that which was granted by king John, A D 1212, in the 14th year of his reign, confirming to the burgeſſes their rights and privileges, conferred upon them both by his father Henry II. and by himſelf. And, as Mr Gardiner, in his "England's Grievances Diſcovered," ſays that this was the firſt charter of Newcaſtle, we ſhall give the following abſtract of it from that work.

"KING JOHN, by his letters patent, dated the —— day of ——, in the 14th year of his reign, and in the year of our Lord 1212, granted, demiſed, and confirmed, to the honeſt men of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, and to their heirs, his town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, with all the appurtenances, to fee-farm, for one hundred pounds, to be rendered to the ſaid king and his heirs, at his exchequer, (to wit) at the feaſt of Eaſter, fifty pounds, and at the feaſt of St. Michael other fifty pounds; ſaving to the ſaid king, the rents, prizes, and aſſizes in the port of the ſaid town. Further he grants to them, and confirmeth one hundred and ten ſhillings and ſixpence of rent, which they have by the gift of the ſaid king, in the ſaid town, of eſcheats, to be divided and aſſigned to them, who loſt their rents by occaſion of a ditch or trench, and of the new work made under the caſtle, towards the river or water, ſo that thereof they might have the more, that loſt the more, and they that loſt the leſs ſhould have the leſs. He alſo granted to them, for him and his heirs, that in nothing they ſhould be anſwerable to the ſheriff, nor to the conſtable, for thoſe things which belong to them, as the ſaid charter teſtifieth. Wherefore he will-

eth and firmly commandeth, that the ſaid men, and their heirs, may have and hold the ſame town, with its appurtenances, to fee-farm, for the ſaid hundred pounds yearly to be paid, as is aforeſaid, well and in peace, freely, quietly, and entirely, with all liberties and free cuſtoms, which they were wont to have in the time of king Henry II. father of the ſaid king John, as by the ſaid letters patent appeareth."

King Henry III. by his charter, made it a "mayor town," being governed before by four bailiffs; and to his other royal favours added this gracious one, (ſays Wallis) a grant, during pleaſure, of all the demeſne-lands belonging to the Caſtle-field, containing 850 acres, for free paſture, with liberty to dig coals and ſtones, and to diſpoſe of them for their uſe to the beſt advantage, upon payment of twenty ſhillings into the exchequer.

His bounty did not ſtop here. He gave them alſo a field called the Forth, containing eleven acres, and then valued at twelve pounds per annum; for which they were to pay forty ſhillings. And that no Jew was to reſide among them. *Bourne, Wallis, &c.*

King Edward I. directed a writ of ſummons to Newcaſtle, in the tenth year of his reign, 1282, to ſend two members to parliament; which is the earlieſt record we have of boroughs ſending any; or indeed of the commons ſitting, except thoſe ſummoned under Montfort's uſurpation, in the name of the king's father, king Henry III.

King Edward III. confirmed the franchiſes of this town, and granted it the perpetuity of the moor, and lands called Caſtle-moor and Caſtle-fields, for the payment of forty ſhillings annually into the exchequer. He exempted Newcaſtle from the juriſdiction of the admiralty of England; gave permiſſion to purchaſe lands to a certain value; confirmed ſeveral by-laws of

of the magiſtrates, for well-governing and improving it; and alſo iſſued an order for the manner of electing the mayor, magiſtrates, and other officers; and another concerning the meaſure to be uſed by the venders of coals.

King Richard II. confirmed the charters formerly granted to Newcaſtle, in the firſt year of his reign, 1378. He alſo afterwards granted ſome pieces of ground, for the conveniency of making high-ways and a bridge: and for its greater honour, he alſo granted, A. D. 1390, that a ſword, the enſign of royal ſtate and authority, ſhould be carried before the mayor.

From the reign of Richard II. to the 15th century, upon the moſt ſedulous examination of the various grants, and reſumptions of privileges to and from the town of Newcaſtle, we can diſcover nothing intereſting under theſe deſpotic reigns; but that ſtill the corporation and free burgeſſes were inſenſibly acquiring freſh acceſſions to their privileges, from the throne, while they were rapidly extending their commerce, and improving their reſources of wealth and opulence at home. But it was not till the reign of Elizabeth that Newcaſtle obtained a charter, not only confirming all thoſe granted in their favour in former reigns, but, as that diſcerning princeſs, with ſatisfaction, obſerved the vaſt conſequence and advantages which the crown then derived, and if properly cheriſhed, would ſtill further derive, from the various branches of their encreaſing trade, ſhe granted them a new charter, comprehending and confirming all their privileges and immunities.

As this charter of Elizabeth, properly ſpeaking, gave ſolidity to the civil conſtitution of this opulent

corporation, defines the juriſdiction of its magiſtrates and civil officers, the extent of their authority, the privileges, as well as the limits of thoſe privileges, of the freemen, we have thought it proper to inſert here the ſubſtance thereof.

Auguſt 30, 1589, this queen granted a charter to the burgeſſes of Newcaſtle, wherein ſhe incorporated them by the name of "The Mayor and Burgeſſes of the Town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, in the County of the ſame;" confirming to them the ſaid town, with all its members and appurtenances, and the liberties they formerly had, as well by charter as by proſcription, at one hundred pounds fee-farm, payable at Michaelmas in every year; with power to the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, or the greater part of them, to make ordinances and by-laws, for their better government, enjoining the obedience of them, under pain of fine or impriſonment. This charter alſo gave them power to make perambulation, ſet boundaries, and remove encroachments on the limits of the town, the extent of which by land and by water, was to remain as before. It further compriſed a pardon of purchaſe made without licence, and power to retain what had formerly been purchaſed; and gave them the ſame authority and liberty in the caſtle, which was ſtill a parcel of the county of Northumberland, as in the other parts of the town. This charter further granteth an exemption from the juriſdiction of the admiralty, with an admiralty court of its own, to be held in that town every Monday, before the recorder and aldermen, or three of them, whereof the mayor or recorder to be one, making them alſo juſtices of the peace for the admiralty, and for conſervation of the river, within the port, with a ſerjeant at mace

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to execute the proceſs. It empowered the mayor alſo to make a judge, and other officers of the admiralty; granting alſo cognizance of admiral pleas, and concerning wrecks, and the coroner, with authority to take recognizances for admiral cauſes and fines, and iſſues, with the power to levy them. Alſo chattels waived, deodands, goods of felons de ſes; and all that belonged to the admiralty; prohibiting, at the ſame time, the lord of the admiralty from intermeddling with them. Laſtly, this charter gave them authority to hold gaol-delivery, and all that belongs to the governor's office, with power to erect gallows, and to purchaſe, notwithſtanding the ſtatute of mortmain.

In the 88th page (ſays Collier) of the parchment book, in the town-clerk's office, it ſays, this charter alſo grants liberty to enter and arreſt any perſon in the Caſtle-garth, the dungeon only excepted.

But as the charter of liberties granted in the 42d year of the reign of queen Elizabeth ſeems to be the principal one, we ſhall ſubjoin a brief abſtract of it.

Abſtract of the Charter granted to the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, in the 42d year of the reign of queen Elizabeth.

THAT the town of Newcaſtle is an ancient town, and that they have had laws, juriſdictions, &c. and that the ſaid town hath ſuffered no ſmall loſs, by reaſon of divers differences, &c. concerning the manner of loading and unloading ſea-coals, at the ſame town, whereupon the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes humbly petitioned the ſaid queen, for the better maintenance and government of the ſaid town, that ſhe would vouchſafe to amplifie her munificence and favour towards the ſaid town.

The ſaid queen, for her and her ſucceſſors, grants to the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, and to their ſucceſſors, that they only of the ſaid town with its members, ſhall have and enjoy, all the cuſtoms, liberties,

liberties, &c. which were granted to their predeceſſors, by ſeveral charters, which the honeſt men of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, &c. by pretence of what corporation ſoever, they held and enjoyed, to have, hold, and enjoy, the ſaid town, and all cuſtoms, &c. to the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, and their ſucceſſors, to their uſe for ever, to be holden in fee-farm; rendering the ancient fee-farm of one hundred pounds at Michaelmas only, and that they may have all ſuch liberties, cuſtoms, &c. without the let of any one, &c.

The ſaid queen granteth, that the mayor, ten aldermen, and ſheriff of the ſaid town, &c. and other four and twenty of the more diſcreet and honeſter burgeſſes of the ſaid town, &c. may chuſe the mayor, and other officers of the ſaid town, within five days, after the choice and oath taken by the mayor, which ſaid mayor, and the other twenty four burgeſſes, in all thirty-ſix, ſhall be at all times then after, the common council of the ſaid town; and ſhall have power in making laws, &c. for the good government of the ſaid town, &c. and for the good government of the markets and fairs, within the ſaid town and limits thereof, &c. and for the declaration by what means the miniſters, officers, and artificers of the ſaid town, and their factors, ſervants, and apprentices in their trades, &c. and alſo for their better preſervation, letting and ſetting of their lands tenements, &c. And that the mayor, and common council of the ſaid town, or the greater part of them, whereof we will the mayor and ſix aldermen, thirteen being, ſeven to be, &c. as often as they ſhall make ſuch laws, &c. and ſuch pains, puniſhments, penalties, or impriſonment of bodies, or by fines, &c. upon all delinquents, contrary to ſuch laws, &c. as ſhall be neceſſary for keeping of the ſaid laws, &c. and to have and retain the ſaid fines, &c. to their own uſe, &c. ſo that the ſame laws, &c. be not repugnant to the laws of the kingdom of England.

And further, the ſaid queen granteth, that the election of the mayor, recorder, aldermen, common-council, and all other officers and miniſters, to be choſen, &c. ſhall in every year be upon Monday next, after Michaelmas-day, honeſt men and burgeſſes of the twelve ſocieties, lawfully choſen in the accuſtomed place, to wit, drapers, mercers, &c. and that they name and preſent two honeſt men of every myſtery, &c. being twenty four in number, being ſworn that they, or the greateſt part of them, ſhall chuſe and name the mayor, alſo to chuſe the ſheriff, two coroners, one clerk of the chamber, who ſhall adminiſter an oath to the mariners and maſters of ſhips at the port of Newcaſtle; and in the ſame manner,

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and the ſame day yearly, may name eight other burgeſſes, &c to be chamberlains of the ſame town, and one ſword-bearer before the mayor, and eight ſerjeants of the mace, and one recorder; and there ſhall be twenty-four electors for one year; new election of alderman, dying or being depoſed, and the alderman newly choſen, ſhall be alderman during life. Officers choſen by the mayor under their common ſeal, ſhall be admitted to their places. To fine ſuch as refuſe to hold their places upon election, the ſaid fine not to exceed 200 marks. The like for the ſheriff, or if any officer (ſave the recorder) die within the year, then to chuſe another. And if the recorder die within one year next after his election, or be removed from, or leave his office, &c. then to chuſe another fit perſon, learned in the laws, albeit not a burgeſs, in his place, &c. And if the mayor of the ſaid town be depoſed, removed, or die, then to chuſe another within twenty days, &c. The like for the ſheriff, &c. William Jenniſon named firſt mayor. John Savel one of the barons of the exchequer, firſt and modern recorder. William Selby, &c. and nine others are made the firſt and modern aldermen. James Clavering appointed firſt, and the modern ſheriff, &c. the ſaid William Jenniſon, mayor, and thirty five perſons more, are appointed to be the firſt, and the modern common-council men, &c. Matthew Chapman, and Rowland Tempeſt are appointed to be firſt, and the modern coroners, &c. George Dent appointed firſt clerk of the chamber. Francis Burrel and ſeven others, appointed to be the firſt and the modern chamberlains of the ſaid town. George Still appointed ſword-bearer. George Selby, and ſeven other perſons, appointed to be the firſt ſerjeants at mace, &c.

The ſaid queen, grants to the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, and their ſucceſſors, for ever, that they may hold one court of record, in Guildhall, before the mayor, upon Monday in every week, through the year, except in the weeks of chriſtmas, eaſter, and pentecoſt, &c. and another court, upon Wedneſdays and Fridays in every week, throughout the year, except in the ſeveral weeks aforeſaid; and all pleas of debts, covenants, detainer, treſpaſſes, &c. and pleas of court, of pipowder, &c. and courts of the upper-bench, juſtices of the bench, and juſtices of aſſize, before the ſaid mayor. And that the mayor and burgeſſes in the court, to be holden before the mayor, and in the court, to be holden before the ſheriff, and their ſucceſſors, in all and ſingular ſuits, &c. may attach the parties

parties defendants in the ſame ſuits, &c. in their lands and goods, and commit them to their priſon, called Newgate.

The mayor, the ten aldermen, and recorder of the ſaid town, for ever, to be jointly, and ſeverally keepers of the peace, &c. within the ſaid town, &c. and to chaſtiſe and puniſh malefactors, &c.

And further, that they, or any three of them, whereof the mayor to be one, be juſtices of the ſaid queen, her heirs and ſucceſſors, to enquire upon oath, &c. of all murders, &c. foreſtallers, regrators, &c. and of all other matters whatſoever done, or committed, &c. ſo that the keepers of the peace in Northumberland and Durham, do not enter for any matter of peace, &c. to be ended and determined, in the ſaid town of Newcaſtle.

The queen grants to the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, and their ſucceſſors, that they may, as often as need ſhall require, impoſe, &c. fines, penalties, taxations, cuſtoms, &c. for the public uſe of the mayor and burgeſſes of the ſaid town, to be kept in their common chamber, and to be expended for their public uſe, or by their officers, from time to time to be levied, ſuch as before time were lawfully taxed and impoſed, &c. and that the ſaid mayor, &c. may uſe all the means they can, to levy and gather he ſame.

The queen's pleaſure further was, that the mayor, recorder, and aldermen of the ſaid town, or five or more of them, whereof the mayor to be one, be juſtices for gaol deliveries, &c. and that the coroners of the ſaid town ſhall deliver all juries, inquiſitions, pannel attachments, &c. and make return of them to the mayor, &c. in all their gaol-deliveries, &c. and do execute the precepts of the mayor, &c. in ſuch manner as any ſheriff of England was accuſtomed to do, at the gaol-deliveries, for their ſeveral counties; and that the ſaid mayor, recorder, and aldermen, may erect gallows, within the liberties of the ſaid town, to hang felons, &c. And that the ſaid mayor, recorder, and aldermen, or five or more of them, may take and arreſt what felons, thieves, and malefactors ſoever, within the town and port of Newcaſtle, and port aforeſaid, or the precinct or liberties of them, are found, and may bring them to priſon there.

The ſaid queen gives licence to William Reddel, and to ſix others, and to what ſubjects, or ſubject whatſoever, of the ſaid queen, her heirs and ſucceſſors, aſſign or aſſigns, tenants, or farmers, of the manor of Gates-ſide and Wickham, with their appurtenances, in the county of Durham, by virtue of a leaſe to the ſaid queen, made (amongſt others) by Richard, late biſhop

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of Durham, by his indenture, dated the 26th of April, in the 24th year of her reign, 1582, for ninety-nine years from the making thereof; and that the ſaid aſſign or aſſigns, tenants, farmers of the premiſes ſo demiſed, and their ſurvivors. The ſaid manors, or lordſhips of Gates-ſide and Wickham, with their appurtenances, may grant and aſſign, to the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes. and to their ſucceſſors, for the reſidue of the years then to come; and to the mayor and burgeſſes of the ſaid town, and to their ſucceſſors, that the ſaid manors and lordſhips of Gates-ſide and Wickham aforeſaid, with their appurtenances, may have and hold, during the reſidue of the years then to come, the ſaid queen, for her, her heirs and ſucceſſors, gave ſpecial licence, notwithſtanding the ſtatute of mortmain or any other ſtatute, &c.

The queen pardoneth and releaſeth to the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, and to their ſucceſſors, and to every ſubject and ſubjects whatſoever, all, and all manner of pains, penalties, forfeitures, and ſums of money, and all other charges whatſoever, to the ſaid queen, or to any of her progenitors, theretofore forfeited, by virtue of an act of parliament of king Henry the fifth, at Weſtminſter, in the ninth year of his reign, only publiſhed for the aſſurement of keels, by parliament commiſſioners aſſigned, or by pretence of another act of Parliament, begun at Weſtminſter, in the one and twentieth year of king Henry the eighth, intituled, An act concerning Newcaſtle, and the port there, for the loading or unloading of any merchants goods within this kingdom, or elſewhere, to be ſold from any ſhip or ſhips, or other veſſels, in or at any place or places within the port and river of Tyne, between Sparhawk* and Hadwyn† ſtreams, but only at the ſaid town of Newcaſtle, and not elſewhere, under pains and forfeitures, in the ſaid act contained and ſpecified. And by virtue of another act of parliament, at Weſtminſter aforeſaid, the 23d of January, in the firſt year of the late queen Elizabeth, intituled, An act limiting the times of expoſing upon land-merchandiſes, from parts beyond

* Sparhawk is a rock near the mouth of the Tyne, bearing from the ſhore about 210 yards nearly eaſt of the Spaniſh fort, and ſouth-eaſt from Tynemouth-Caſtle.

† Hadwyn-ſtreams, it is probable, refers either to a rapid part of the river Tyne, or ſome little rill of water which may fall into it near to or below the village of Heddon-on-the-Wall; beyond which place, moſt probably, the flux of the tide never reaches, though often to or very near it.

the ſeas, and concerning cuſtoms and ſweet wines; and there it was enacted, amongſt others, for and concerning the loading or unloading, in or from any ſhip, or other veſſel, any goods, wares, or merchandizes, againſt the ſaid act, or to the late queen due and forfeited, by virtue of the ſaid acts; and all the goods and chattels, lands and tenements, of the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, &c. being the aforeſaid penalties and forfeitures.

Moreover, the queen grants to the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, and to every ſubject and ſubjects of hers, her heirs and ſucceſſors, inhabitants and burgeſſes of the ſaid town, commonly called hoaſtmen, in every ſeaſon fitting, and hours accuſtomed, the cuſtoms and ſubſidies, and other profits, to the ſaid queen, her heirs and ſucceſſors, due to be paid, and to the cuſtomers and collectors of the ſaid queen and ſucceſſors, agreeing thereupon to be charged or diſcharged, ſhipped or unſhipped, pit-coals, grindſtones, rubſtones, and whet-ſtones, near Newcaſtle, &c. ſuch ſhip, veſſel, &c. was of ſuch a capacity, or for any other reaſonable cauſe, that they could not fitly apply to Newcaſtle, that then, in ſuch caſe, the mayor and burgeſſes of the ſaid town, as their ſervants, &c. might and may load and unload ſuch ſhip and ſhips, veſſel and veſſels, with coals and ſtones aboveſaid, in their port, between Sparhawk and Newcaſtle, being diſtant, by eſtimation, not above ſeven miles. And further, the queen willeth and commandeth the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, &c. and their ſucceſſors, and every ſubject and ſubjects of her, her heirs and ſucceſſors, inhabitants of the ſaid town, called hoaſtmen, that they, the ſame ſhips being of ſuch a capacity that they cannot fitly ſail to the town of Newcaſtle, to charge and diſcharge themſelves of coals and ſtones ſo nigh Newcaſtle as conveniently may be done, without fraud, and that under the pain of one hundred ſhillings, to be levied for the queen's uſe, her heirs and ſucceſſors, to be forfeited for every ſhip or veſſel ſo charged or diſcharged, contrary to the true intention, mentioned in the ſaid letters patent; and for that the queen willeth, that the mayor, burgeſſes, and inhabitants of the ſaid town, being burgeſſes, may ſerve the queen and her ſucceſſors with more commendable ſervice, and may furniſh the queen with mariners more cheerfully in our greateſt wars, as we have heard they have done in times paſt; and for that the ſaid town hath been a faithful fortreſs and defence, fighting againſt the rebels in times paſt, and hath behaved itſelf moſt dutifully to us and to our progenitors,

tors, reſiſting the ſaid rebels. The queen therefore giveth and granteth to the mayor, burgeſſes, and their ſucceſſors, all the felons goods unto themſelves, and of fugitives convicted and attainted, and of outlawed perſons, &c.

And whereas the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne is a town of merchants, a mart or market of great fame, and ſtuffed with a multitude of merchants, dwelling therein, and of others, as well home-bred thither flowing, and there expecting their trade of merchanting, and thereupon it is neceſſary to order and eſtabliſh a certain order within the ſaid town, and the ſpeedy recovery of debts to merchants, &c. due according to the ſtatute of Acton Burnel, &c. The queen granteth to the mayor and burgeſſes, and their ſucceſſors, that the mayor for the time, for ever thereafter, ſhall have power, together with the clerk, to that end ordained, to take recognizances, according to the form of the ſtatute of Acton Burnel, and of the ſtatute of merchandize, made in parliament, in the time of king Edward the firſt, and that there ſhall be a clerk in the ſame town, who ſhall be called the clerk of the queen, her heirs and ſucceſſors, to take recognizances of debts, according to the ſaid ſtatute. The queen appoints William Jackſon, gentleman, to be her firſt and then modern clerk, for taking recognizances of debts within the ſaid town, to enjoy the ſame during his life, and after his death the mayor and burgeſſes, &c. are empowered to preſer to the ſaid office another of the burgeſſes of the ſaid town, to be the queen's clerk (as before) and to continue ſo long as it ſhould pleaſe the mayor, &c. And ſhall have a ſeal in two pieces, for ſealing the ſaid recognizances, and the mayor to have the cuſtody of the greater piece, and the clerk ſhall have the cuſtody of the leſſer piece of the ſaid ſeal; ſo that if a merchant or any other ſhall be made a debtor, he may come before the mayor and clerk of recognizances, and before them acknowledge his debt and day of payment. And the ſaid mayor and clerk may do and diſpatch all other things, which by the ſtatute aforeſaid are requiſite. The ſaid clerk is to have ſuch wages, fees, rewards, and emoluments for the execution of the ſaid office, as any other mayor of any other town or city in England, lawfully and of right hath or receiveth, &c.

The queen granteth, by the ſaid charter, to the mayor and burgeſſes and to their ſucceſſors, and to the inhabitants of the ſaid town, that they be quit and diſcharged of tolls, paſſages, poundage, murage, chimage, paunage, laſtage, ſtallage, carriage, pi-

cage, tronage, hidage, and wharfage, for their goods and merchandizes, as well by land as by ſea, as well in fairs as in markets, and all ſecular cuſtoms, over the queen's lands, on this ſide and beyond the ſeas, &c.

The queen further granteth to the ſaid mayor, burgeſſes, and their ſucceſſors, that they ſhall have for their public uſe, all and ſingular ſuch like tolls, and all other cuſtoms, tolls, profits, and advantages, in fares and markets, holden and to be holden within the ſaid town, and any other times whatſoever by themſelves, to be levied and gathered, and to be expended to, and for the uſe of the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, and their ſucceſſors, &c. and the ſaid queen forbiddeth, that any man diſturb them, &c.

The ſaid queen alſo grants to the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, and their ſucceſſors, that no merchant ſtranger, from the liberty of the ſaid town of Newcaſtle, may ſell to any merchant ſtranger, any their merchandizes within the ſaid town, (except victuals, and beſides in markets and fairs, to be holden within the ſaid town and limits thereof) nor ſuch merchant ſtranger may buy any merchandizes, (except and beſides, as is before excepted,) of any merchant ſtranger within the ſame town and liberty thereof, other than in groſs, upon pain and forfeiture of thoſe merchandizes, to be had and levied for the public uſe of the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes.

The queen moreover granteth, that the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, and their ſucceſſors, may have, hold, &c. all ſuch like liberties, cuſtoms, franchiſes, &c. and all other premiſes, &c. to to the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, granted and confirmed, as is before expreſſed, and that they may enjoy, and uſe them for ever, fully, freely, &c. without impeachment, moleſtation, &c.

Further, the queen pardoneth and releaſeth, to the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, and to their ſucceſſors, all, and all manner of actions, ſuits, impeachments by writ of quo warranto, to be brought or executed againſt the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, and their ſucceſſors, by the ſaid late queen, &c. or by any of her officers, by reaſon of any franchiſe, liberty, &c. by the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes, or their predeceſſors, within the ſaid town, and limits thereof, before times challenged or uſurped, and that the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes ſhall be quit, and altogether diſcharged for ever.

The queen further granteth, that every perſon or perſons, who for ever hereafter ſhall be admitted to be burgeſſes, &c. ſhall be admitted

admitted by the mayor and burgeſſes, &c. for the greater part of them.

Moreover the queen, often conſidering in her mind, of how much avail it is to the commonwealth of England, to have youth well educated and inſtructed from their tender years, &c. ordaineth and granteth, that within the ſaid town of Newcaſtle, and the liberties thereof, that there be erected, and for ever, there be one free-grammar-ſchool, which ſhall be called the free-grammar-ſchool of queen Elizabeth, in Newcaſtle, and ſhall conſiſt of one maſter and ſcholars, to be inſtructed in the ſame, and that they the maſter and ſcholars, of the ſame ſchool, for ever hereafter, ſhall be one body corporate, in law, fact, and name, by the name of the maſter and ſcholars of the free-grammar-ſchool of queen Elizabeth, in Newcaſtle upon Tyne, &c. and by that name may have perpetual ſucceſſion, and ſhall be in perpetual times to come, perſons able and capable in the law, of having, purchaſing, &c. lands, tenements, &c. to them and their ſucceſſors in fee ſimple, or for terms of years, ſo they exceed not the yearly value of forty pounds, and ſo they be not holden of the ſaid queen, her heirs and her ſucceſſors in chief, nor by knights ſervice, &c. and that the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle, and their ſucceſſors, or the greater part of them, &c. ſhall have power to make an honeſt, learned, and diſcreet man, to be the firſt and modern uſher in that ſchool, there to continue, during the good pleaſure of the mayor and burgeſſes, &c. and if it happen the maſter and uſher to die, or leave the ſaid ſchool, &c. then they may chuſe other men to be maſter and uſher, &c.

And whereas the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle, more deeply conſidering, and weighing the effects of divers letters patent, &c. And whereas the ſaid town is an ancient town, and the mayor and burgeſſes of the ſame, time out of mind of man, they have had a certain guild or fraternity, commonly called the hoaſt-men, for the diſcharging and better diſpoſing of ſea-coals, and pit-coals, grind-ſtones, rub-ſtones, and whet-ſtones, in and upon the river and port of Tyne, which guild or fraternity is granted, or eſtabliſhed by none of the ſaid letters patent: whereupon the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes have humbly ſupplicated the ſaid queen, that in ſupply of the ſaid defects, that we would exhibit our liberality in favour, and that we would vouchſafe to make, reduce, and create the ſaid guild into a body corporate and politic, &c. The ſaid queen therefore ordaineth, appointeth, and granteth, that

that William Jennifon, the elder, and forty-four perfons more, commonly called the hoaft-men of the faid town of Newcaftle upon Tyne, and brethren of the faid fraternity, and all others, which now are, or hereafter fhall be elected, admitted, &c. into the faid guild, or fraternity, of the faid hoaft-men of Newcaftle upon Tyne, hereafter, and fhall, by one body corporate and politic, in law, fact, and name, by the name of governor and ftewards, and brethren of the fraternity of the hoaft-men in the town of Newcaftle upon Tyne, &c. one body corporate and politic, really and at full, for us, our heirs and fucceffors. We do erect, make, ordain, and create, &c. and that by the fame name, they may, and fhall, have a perpetual fucceffion, and are, and fhall be in perpetual times to come, perfons able and in law capable, to have, purchafe, receive, and poffefs lands, tenements liberties, &c. to them and their fucceffors, in perpetuity, and otherwife, and to give, grant, demife, &c. the fame lands, tenements, and hereditaments, and to do all other things by the name aforefaid, and that by the fame name, they may plead, or be impleaded, &c. in what court foever, &c.

And that the faid governor and ftewards, and brethren of the hoaft-men of the town of Newcaftle aforefaid, and their fucceffors, that feal at their pleafure, may break, alter, and make, as to them fhall feem good. And the queen appointeth, that there be and fhall be for ever hereafter, of the number of the hoaft-men, &c. which yearly upon the 4th of January, fhall be chofen, &c. by the faid brethren of that fraternity, &c. to be governor, &c. And likewife there fhall be for ever hereafter, two honeft and difcreet men of the faid number of hoaft-men, &c. who fhall be the faid 4th of January, chofen by the faid governor, fteward, and brethren of the faid fraternity, &c. And that the queen's will in the premifes, have a more excellent effect, fhe affigneth, nameth, and createth William Jennifon, the elder, to be the firft and modern governor, &c. Moreover fhe hath affigned, named, conftituted, and appointed Francis Anderfon and John Barker to be the firft and modern ftewards of that fraternity, &c.

The queen further grants to the faid governor, ftewards, and brethren of the faid fraternity of hoaft-men, &c. and to their fucceffors, that the faid governor, ftewards, and brethren, &c. and their fucceffors, &c. fhall have in every fit time, for ever hereafter, full power of meeting, in their guild-hall, or in any other place convenient within the faid town, and there to conftitute, make

fuch

ſuch laws, inſtitutes, &c. which to the ſaid governor, ſtewards, and brethren, &c. good, wholeſome, profitable, &c. according to as they ſhall think good, for the good rule and government of the governor, ſtewards, and brethren of the ſaid fraternity, and for declaration, by what means and order, they and their factors, ſervants, and apprentices, in their office and buſineſſes, concerning the ſaid fraternity, they ſhall have, carry and uſe, &c. and that the governor, ſtewards, and brethren of that fraternity, &c. as often as they grant, make, ordain, or eſtabliſh ſuch laws, inſtitutes, inform, and they may impoſe ſuch pains, penalties, puniſhments, and impriſonments of body, or by fines, &c. upon all delinquents againſt ſuch laws, inſtitutes, &c. as to them ſhall be thought neceſſary and requiſite, and as to them ſhall be thought beſt for the obſervation of the ſaid laws, ordinances, &c. and the ſaid fines and amerciaments at their diſcretions, they may levy, have and retain to them and their ſucceſſors, to the uſe of the governor, ſtewards, and brethren aforeſaid, without calumny, &c. all which, and ſingular laws, ordinances, &c. the ſaid queen willeth to be obſerved; ſo that the ſaid laws, ordinances, &c. be not repugnant to the laws or ſtatutes of the kingdom of England.

And further, the queen granteth to the ſaid governor, ſtewards, and brethren, &c. and to their ſucceſſors, that for ever hereafter, they and their ſucceſſors, &c. may have, and ſhall have full power, from time to time, at their pleaſure, to chuſe, name, and ordain other inhabitants and burgeſſes of the ſaid town, &c. to be, and ſhall be brethren of the ſaid fraternity, &c. who, ſo elected, nominated and ſworn, ſhall be named, and be brethren of that fraternity.

Moreover, the ſaid queen grants licence, power, and authority to the ſaid governor, ſtewards, and brethren, &c. and to their ſucceſſors, that they, for the time being, and their ſucceſſors, and every of them for ever hereafter, may and ſhall quietly and peaceably have, hold, uſe, and enjoy all ſuch liberties, privileges, &c. concerning the loading and unloading, ſhipping, or unſhipping of ſtone-coals, pit-coals, grind-ſtones, rub-ſtones, and whet-ſtones. And that they may for ever hereafter, load and unload, ſhip and unſhip, in or out of any ſhips or veſſels, pit-coals, and ſtones aforeſaid, within the ſaid river and port of Tyne, in any place or places, as to them ſhall be expedient between the ſaid town of Newcaſtle, &c. and the aforeſaid place, in the aforeſaid river, called the Sparhawke,

hawke, ſo nigh to the ſaid town of Newcaſtle, &c. as conveniently may be done, according to the intention of theſe letters patents, as the men and brethren of the ſaid fraternity, at any time have uſed and accuſtomed, notwithſtanding the ſtatute of king Henry VIII. the third of November, in the 21ſt year of his reign, and from thence adjourned to Weſtminſter, holden, publiſhed, 1559. Intituled an act concerning Newcaſtle and the port, &c. to the ſame belonging, or any other act, &c. notwithſtanding: And the ſaid queen alſo willeth, &c. for that expreſs mention, &c. witneſs the queen, at Weſtminſter, the 22d of March, in the 13th year of her reign.

December 21, 1603, a decree was made by the preſident and council of the north, upon ſubmiſſion to them, for the government of the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne; which ordered, that, upon the ancient day of election, the twelve myſteries ſhould preſent twenty-four, who ſhould chuſe four, the then mayor, and three other burgeſſes, who had been mayors and aldermen; and for want of which to chuſe ſheriff-peers, and for want of theſe laſt, common burgeſſes; which four were to elect ſeven aldermen, and one that had been ſheriff, in all twelve perſons: and that as to the other twelve, called the twelve of the latter election, the twelve myſteries ſhould each ſend one to be preſented to the former electors, who were to chuſe ſix out of the ſaid twelve. And that the following, called by-trades, viz. maſters-mariners, weavers, barbers, chirurgeons, with chandlers, cutlers, ſhipwrights, houſe-carpenters, maſons, glovers, joiners, millers, curriers, with felt-makers, and armourers, colliers, with carriage-men, ſlaters, glaziers, with plumbers, and painters; in all, fourteen companies, ſhould each ſend one: and that twelve ſhould be choſen out of this fourteen; out of which twelve, the former eighteen ſhould take ſix, making twenty-four

four in all, who were to elect the officers of the corporation. And alſo twenty-four others, with the mayor, aldermen, and ſheriff, to make the common-council; of whom the whole, or the greater number, whereof the mayor and ſix aldermen were to be ſeven, ſhould diſpoſe of the revenues, leaſes, and offices, and that nothing ſhould paſs the common ſeal without their conſent. This decree enjoined alſo, that the twenty-four auditors ſhould be allowed thirteen ſhillings and fourpence per day; that the mayor and recorder ſhould be of the quorum in the gaol-delivery; and that every free-burgeſs ſhould be admitted an hoaſtman, on payment of fifty-three ſhillings and fourpence; and a freeman's ſon, or apprentice, for paying thirty-three ſhillings; and that the charters ſhould be renewed accordingly.

March 31, 1604, king James I. granted a charter to the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, which confirmed the mode of electing officers, as by the decree dated at York, December 21, 1603: with this difference, that the by-trades, now encreaſed one in number, ſhould ſend fifteen perſons, who were to chooſe twelve burgeſſes, as by that decree. This charter further enjoined, that every act, ordinance, or conſtitution which had been made or agreed upon in guild, either by the mayor and burgeſſes, aſſembled to make up any writings, &c. concerning the poſſeſſions of the ſaid mayor and burgeſſes; unleſs the ſame were with the aſſent and conſent, and in the preſence of the mayor and common-council, or the greater part of them, whereof the mayor and ſix aldermen were to be ſeven.

A. D. 1684, Charles II. demanded the charter of the corporation of Newcaſtle, along with thoſe of all

the incorporated towns and cities of the kingdom; which was ſurrendered accordingly. A new charter was granted them by that prince, but he reſerved to himſelf the power of placing ſuch as he pleaſed in the magiſtracy; and accordingly, he diſplaced the mayor choſen by the corporation, and filled his room with Sir William Creach, a violent papiſt. A flattering addreſs to the king was ſigned by him and other aldermen, who were papiſts; but was negatived by a majority of that body. This ſo offended James II. that, by a *quo warranto*, their charter was demanded again; when that prince, unworthy of a throne, abdicated the government, and the ever-memorable revolution took place.

Thus again (ſays Mr. Brand) the corporation of Newcaſtle upon Tyne emancipated from the ſhackles of a government founded on principles of the moſt deſpotic tyranny, recovered its ancient liberty in the choice of its own officers and magiſtrates, and immediately exerciſed that privilege by appointing a new ſet of them.

By the above and other charters of leſs importance, we may ſee how the immunities and privileges of the free burgeſſes of Newcaſtle have been obtained and ſecured from a very remote period; previous to which the town appears to have been the property of the crown in the time of William Rufus, the ſon of the conqueror; who, after he had finiſhed the caſtle, gave the circumjacent lands to the neighbouring inhabitants, whom he invited to ſettle here, and build and fortify a new or more extenſive town, which, it is ſaid, he firſt converted into a borough, and demiſed to its own burgeſſes at a certain annual fee farm.

David

David king of Scots had his reſidence in Newcaſtle moſt part of king Stephen's reign, and gave them many lands, fabricated borough laws for the burgeſſes, built churches and religious houſes for their worſhip. Edward I. extended theſe privileges, by granting by patent, permiſſion to the free burgeſſes to bequeath their lands and tenements to whom they pleaſed; as alſo in the year 1299, by a freſh charter granted to that body the lands and tenements in Pampedon, or Pandon, in the manor of Byker, with all cuſtoms and liberties there, to conſtitute henceforth one town and borough. And in the reign of Henry IV. Newcaſtle was ſeparated from the county of Northumberland, and made a town and county of itſelf.

CORPORATION OF NEWCASTLE.

Having thus given a ſuccinct account of the charters, grants, and privileges, by which the rights and municipal franchiſes of the freemen of this ancient town are ſaid to be held, we proceed to deſcribe its civil government.

The power of adminiſtration is veſted in the mayor, who is chief magiſtrate; a ſheriff, a recorder, a town-clerk, ten aldermen, and a common-council of twenty-four.

The gentlemen who at preſent fill theſe ſtations, are the following:

JOSEPH FORSTER, Eſq. MAYOR.

ALDERMEN.

Sir M. W. Ridley, bart.	Anthony Hood, eſq.
John Eraſmus Blackett, eſq.	Robert Shafto Hedley, eſq.
William Cramlington, eſq.	Archibald Reed, eſq.
William Yielder, eſq.	Robert Clayton, eſq.
Francis Johnſon, eſq.	Thomas Clennell, eſq.

Matthew Hedley, eſq. Sheriff.
R. H. Williamſon, eſq. Recorder.
Mr William Potter, and Mr. Richard Chambers, Coroners.
H. Shadforth, eſq. Clerk of the Chambers.
Robert Pinkney, Sword-bearer.

ELECTORS.

Joſeph Forſter, eſq. mayor
Sir M. W. Ridley, bart.
J. E. Blackett
R. S. Hedley
Francis Johnſon
William Cramlington
Anthony Hood
Robert Clayton
Archibald Reed, and
Thomas Clennell, eſqs.
Mr. Thomas Smith
Mr. Henry Cramlington
Mr. Brough Pow
Mr. Iſaac Cookſon
Mr. Robert Yelloley
Mr. Robert Harriſon
Mr. Richard Chambers
Mr. Robert Widdrington
William Harle, eſq.
Mr. Lionel Robſon
Mr. Hugh Johnſon
Mr. Edward Milburn
Mr. James Archbold
Mr. Thomas Coulſon.

CHAMBERLAINS.

Mr. Joſhua Wardle
Mr. Robert Daviſon
Mr. Robert Lake
Mr. William Foggin
Mr. Thomas Lupton
Mr. Moſes Manners
Mr. William Story
Mr. Matthew Hindmarſh.

SERJEANTS AT MACE.

Mr. Edward Manners
Mr. George Dobſon
Mr. William Scott
Mr. Thomas Mewburn
Mr. Thomas Hewitſon
Mr. Henry Forſter
Mr. Robert Whitfield.

COMMON COUNCIL.

Mr. Iſaac Cookſon
Mr. Nicholas Hall
Mr. Thomas Smith
Mr. William Wright
Mr. Henry Cramlington
Mr. Henry Shadforth
Mr. Robert Harriſon
Mr. Thomas Burdon
Mr. John Anderſon
Mr. Shafto John Hedley
Mr. William Raiſbeck
Mr. George Brumell
Mr. William Laſlie
Mr. Jos. Pollard
Mr. John Langlands
Mr. Matthew Hunter
Mr. Richard Huntley
Mr. Thomas Maddiſon

Mr.

Mr. Edward Wilſon
Mr. Thomas Robinſon
Mr. Thomas Rutherford
Mr. Robert Yelloley
Mr. William Watſon
Mr. Richard Chambers.

Mr. John Gale, Gaoler.
Mr. Richard Hill, Town-Marſhal.
Mr. Cuthbert Pigg, Town-Surveyor.

COURTS.

The MAYOR'S COURT is held every Monday, in the mayor's chamber, at the weſt end of the Guildhall, in the Exchange. It is a court of record, and of great importance. It preſerves the rights, laws, franchiſes, and cuſtoms of the corporation. In it are tried all actions for debt, treſpaſſes, accounts, covenants, broken attachments, ſequeſtrations, or other matters, ariſing within the town and liberties, to any value whatſoever, againſt the free burgeſſes only. No attornies are allowed to plead in it, but ſuch as are free of the courts of the corporation, who are ſworn at their admiſſion. It hath eight ſerjeants at mace to attend it, one of which is alſo water-bailiff, or clerk of the water.

Newcaſtle being a place of vaſt buſineſs, the mayor's or town-court, is commonly crowded with numbers who have complaints to make, &c. which are heard with patience and decided with equity. On this account, fewer cauſes are removed to the higher courts than would otherwiſe happen, the parties commonly reſting with his deciſion.

The SHERIFF'S COURT is alſo a court of record, held on Wedneſdays and Fridays, in the ſame chamber, for trials and entering proceedings, as rules, appearances, judgments, pleas, &c.

COURT of CONSCIENCE. This court was firſt inſtituted in Newcaſtle, by an act of Parliament, anno 1689,

1689, in the firſt year of William and Mary; and confirmed by another act, anno 1755, being the 27th of George II.

The preamble ſtates, that the intention of this court is to prevent vexatious ſuits for ſmall ſums in courts of law, which are often hurtful and not ſeldom ruinous to both parties. To prevent which this court was inſtituted, whereby the plaintiff, upon oath, may recover any debt under forty ſhillings.

It is termed a court of conſcience, (not ſuppoſing ſurely, that conſcience is a *ſtranger* in other courts) becauſe all debts under the above ſum may be recovered in this upon the creditor making oath that the ſame is a juſt debt to him. The mayor and commiſſioner are the judges. They adminiſter oaths and commit offenders to priſon. They proceed firſt by ſummons. This coſts three-pence. If the defendant appear, there is no further charge. If he does not, they proceed to attachment and execution. All perſons, whether freemen or not, may preſent and be preſented in this court, if within the liberties of the town. Freemen may be preſented though they live out of the liberty.

It is to be remarked however, that an attachment is ſeldom granted, unleſs the plaintiff give ſome collateral evidence, at leaſt, beſides his ſimple oath, and the court and ſpectators who generally know ſomething of the plaintiff, are aſſured that the oath is founded on truth; and he is aſſured from the bench, that wilful perjury ſhould it be detected, will be attended with very ſerious conſequences, and for which the robbery of his neighbour of a few ſhillings by a falſe oath, will be a poor recompence!

COURT

COURT OF ADMIRALTY. This is held before the mayor for the preſervation of the river Tyne, at ſuch times as he ſhall direct. His deputy, the water-bailiff, gives notice of all offences committed contrary to the orders made for the preſervation of the brood of fiſhes, and takes effectual care that offenders may be proceeded againſt according to law.

The COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL. This is after the model of the ſupreme court of the nation. It conſiſts of two houſes; one is for the mayor and aldermen, the other is for the commoners. They make all bye-laws for the benefit of the corporation. In this court are recorded all deeds and evidences. The mayor can call and adjourn it at pleaſure.

The COURT OF GUILD is holden thrice a year, and the principal buſineſs is for the apprentices and ſons of freemen to petition for their freedom; they are called by the ſtyle of the company that their maſters or fathers were: this is what is termed "calling their guilds." The wardens and ſtewards of each company attend there to put a ſtop to, or prevent any perſon from obtaining his freedom, who they apprehend is not entitled to it. An apprentice is called thrice in guild, or rather at three different guild days; the ſon of a freeman only once. And if an objection be made, or a ſtop put to his guild, the perſon making the objection is ſummoned before the common-council, to give his reaſon for ſtopping the guild; and if he ſhew good cauſe for making the objection, then the perſon applying cannot be ſworn a freeman till the objection be removed. But if no ſtop be put, or objection made at the guild, then the perſon applying may at any time afterwards be ſworn a free burgeſs before the mayor or any other magiſtrate.

The

The magiſtrates of Newcaſtle being, ex officio, juſtices of the peace for the town and county, hold ſeſſions of the peace every quarter of the year in the guildhall. Much buſineſs, and very frequently of great conſequence, is tranſacted on theſe occaſions. The recorder always preſides. Criminal cauſes, infringements on the privileges of the burgeſſes, injuries done to the river, &c. are all tried here; impriſonments, corporal puniſhment, tranſportation, and every puniſhment ſhort of life, are here awarded to thoſe legally convicted.

We ſhall conclude this deſcription of the civil government of this large and populous town, and the adminiſtration of its laws and cuſtoms, in the warm, and we hope not unmerited, eulogium upon it by the learned Mr Wallis.——"It muſt ever be remembered (ſays that pleaſing writer) to the honour of the magiſtrates of Newcaſtle, that their attention and zeal have ever been conſpicuous, unremitted, and ardent, in maintaining harmony and good order among all ranks of people within their juriſdiction, and ſtigmatizing bold and impudent miſdemeanors. Ever inclined to lenity rather than rigour, and conſcious how much ſome delinquents are more affected by being expoſed to public ſhame and ignominy, than by any other ſort of puniſhment, they had an ancient cuſtom of puniſhing drunkards and brawling women, by cauſing them to paſs in review through the ſtreets, each in a machine ſymbolical of their notorious miſconduct. Thus diſtinguiſhed is Newcaſtle for its good government." We have only to add the high authority of his majeſty's judges of aſſize, that it is certainly owing to the unremitted attention of the magiſtrates to the mild adminiſtration of juſtice, that the

the calander of felonies, miſdemeanours, &c. of ſo vaſt and commercial a town as Newcaſtle, is generally the faireſt, and leaſt ſullied with crimes of almoſt any other in their extenſive circuit.

A liſt of the mayors, &c. will be given at the cloſe of the work.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TOWN IN PARLIAMENT.

Even the moſt arbitrary deſpot cannot govern without advice. He muſt ſee with the eyes and hear with the ears of others. Theſe ſubſidiary media, it muſt be owned, only multiply the evils, and heighten the preſſures of the people. In the feudal times of England, the prince called together and affected to be adviſed by the deliberations of his chiefs or nobles. Nor was it till the victorious Saxons held their *wittenagemots*, or public aſſemblies, that the Britiſh nation had the moſt diſtant idea of civil liberty. Be that as it will, the parliaments of England are of high antiquity. But this auguſt body, during the revolution of ſeveral centuries, were called, more for the purpoſes of receiving royal mandates, and ſanctioning the arbitrary edicts of the prince, than for enacting and promulgating ſalutary ſtatutes, equally conducive to the ſtability of the throne and the beſt intereſts of the people. This was almoſt invariably the caſe till the glorious revolution, when the people made a compact with the prince, and put the ſceptre into his hand with wiſe and prudent limitations.

It is curious to obſerve the averſion which the knights and burgeſſes, who were choſen repreſentatives, diſcovered to accept of the nomination, in former times, previous to the revolution; but, as Hume

juſtly obſerves, the backwardneſs of our anceſtors can only be equalled by the aſtoniſhing avidity which is now diſcovered to obtain a ſeat in parliament. We would not wiſh to credit Walpole, who firſt queſtioned parliamentary integrity, and ſaid, that "Every member had his price."

In our enumeration of the burgeſſes who have repreſented this very ancient town, the limits of our work will not permit us to give a particular detail; nor is it perhaps material to be known.

It is uncertain, ſays Mr. Brand, whether or not Newcaſtle was among the boroughs ſummoned by the barons who took arms againſt king Henry III. to ſend members to the great council of the nation, anno 1264.

A. D. 1283, king Edward I. ſummoned to his parliament at Shrewſbury, two knights for each county, and two repreſentatives each, for twenty-one of the principal towns in England, among which Newcaſtle upon Tyne is named; and the form of the ancient writs clearly evinces, that the two perſons to be honoured by ſuch repreſentation were originally to be choſen out of the number of the principal burgeſſes of the reſpective towns.

The firſt two burgeſſes upon record who were choſen for Newcaſtle, were John Scot and Peter Graper, or Draper, who repreſented this town in Parliament, held at York, A. D. 1297, the 26th of Edward I.

In the parliament held at London, anno 1301, Newcaſtle upon Tyne was repreſented by Nicholas Carliol and Thomas de Fiſina ---*Prynne's Parliamentary Writs.*

In that held at Weſtminſter, A. D. 1310, by Rich. Emelden

Emelden and John de Carliol.----We omit ſeveral others.

In that held *ibidem*, A. D. 1386, by Laurence de Acton and Philip Howell. Laurence de Acton was choſen in ſeveral ſucceſſive parliaments.

In that held *ibidem*, by Laurence Acton and Roger Thornton, A. D. 1399. Good Roger Thornton was repeatedly elected, nor can we wonder at the choice.

A. D. 1441, Robert Rhodes and Robert Heworth were choſen.

A. D. 1553, Sir Robert Brandling, knight, and Edward Hall.

A. D. 1620, Francis Anderſon and Thomas Riddel, knights.

A. D. 1626, Henry Anderſon and Thomas Liddell, knights.

A. D. 1640, Henry Anderſon, knight, and John Blackſton, eſq.

Sir Henry Anderſon, knight, was diſabled, Sept. 4, 1643, for deſerting the ſervice of the houſe, and repairing to the king's (Charles I.) army, againſt the Parliament. Yet he had ſubſcribed the famous ſolemn league and covenant. *Parliamentary Hiſtory, vol.* xiii. *p* 9.

The regal government being overthrown, and Charles I. being beheaded by the parliamentary army, Oliver Cromwell, their general, convened a parliament, called the Little Parliament, but no repreſentatives for any cities or borough, except London, were returned.

By the inſtrument of government, ſubſcribed by Oliver Cromwell, Dec. 16, 1653, when he was inaugurated Lord Protector, for the more equal repre-

ſentation of the kingdom, three members were aſſigned for the county of Northumberland, one for Newcaſtle upon Tyne, and one for Berwick.

In purſuance of the above plan, in the parliament that met Sept. 3, 1654, Newcaſtle was repreſented by Sir Arthur Haſilrig, bart. There is an order of the common-council of Newcaſtle, May 31, 1654, for allowing five ſhillings per day to ſuch perſon as ſhould be elected member of parliament, ordered to be ſummoned to meet at Weſtminſter 3d Sept. next.

By a liſt of the names of thoſe who ſerved in parliament begun at Weſtminſter April 25, 1660, called the Healing Parliament, as they were returned into the crown office, it appears that Robert Elliſon and William Caverley, eſqs. were elected for Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

In the parliament held in the 13th of Charles II. Francis Anderſon and John Marley, knights, repreſented this town.

A. D. 1674, Sir William Blackett and Sir Francis Anderſon were the repreſentatives.

A. D. 1679, Ralph Carr, knight, and Nathaniel Johnſon, eſq.

In the convention parliament, in conſequence of the abdication of James II. Jan. 22, 1688, Ralph Carr, knight, and William Blackett, knt. and bart.

In the parliament which met March 20, 1689, 1ſt of William and Mary, Ralph Carr, knight, and William Carr, eſq.

In that of Oct. 20, 1702, which was the firſt parliament of queen Anne, Henry Liddell, knight, and William Carr, eſq.

In that which met Oct. 25, 1705, the firſt parliament of Great Britain conſtituted by the union, which

which commenced on May-day, 1707, William Blackett, knt. and bart. and William Carr, eſq.

In the firſt parliament of king George I, which met March 17, 1715, William Blackett, bart. and William Wrightſon, eſq.

In the firſt parliament of George II, Nov. 28, 1727, Sir William Blackett, bart. and Nicholas Fenwick, eſq. The poll ended Sept. 8, 1727, when Sir William Blackett had 1202 votes, Mr Fenwick 1189, and Mr Carr 620. The unſucceſsful candidate petitioned, and having diſqualified above 600 of Sir William's voters for bribery, he was voted by the committee duly elected.---Sir William died Sept. 29, 1728.

In the eighth parliament of Great Britain, to meet June 13, 1734, Walter Blackett, eſq. and Nicholas Fenwick, eſq. This election, the poll-book of which was printed, laſted eight days. The candidates were Walter Blackett, eſq. who had 1354 votes; Nicholas Fenwick, eſq. and alderman, had 1083; and William Carr, eſq. and alderman, 716. 1795 freemen voted at this election.

In the ninth parliament of Great Britain, 1741, the ſame.---At this election, long known by the name of the *great conteſt*, which laſted ſix days, the poll-book of which was alſo printed. There were four candidates, all of them aldermen of the town, viz. Walter Blackett, eſq. who had 1454 votes; Nicholas Fenwick, eſq. 1231; Matthew Ridley, eſq. 1131, and William Carr, eſq. 683. 2391 freemen voted upon the occaſion. It is ſaid that a certain *yellow metal* was, in the arduous conteſt, ſcattered with a liberal hand. William Carr and Matthew Ridley, eſqrs. were petitioners.

Mr.

Mr. Carr died May 16, 1742; and Mr. Ridley renewed his petition in the ſecond ſeſſion. Mr. Fenwick declined being a candidate, in the year 1747, and died at Lemington 1752.

In the tenth parliament of Great Britain, 1747, Walter Blackett and Matthew Ridley, eſqrs. were choſen repreſentatives. Walter Blackett, eſq. ſucceeded to the title of baronet, October 10, 1749, on the death of his father.

In the eleventh parliament, 1754, by Sir Walter Blackett, bart. and Matthew Ridley, eſq.

In the firſt parliament of George III. by the ſame.

March 21, 1768, the ſame were re-elected.

In the fourteenth parliament of Great Britain, this town was repreſented by Sir Walter Blackett, bart. and Sir Matthew White Ridley, bart. of Blagdon.

On July 2, 1774, Mr. Ridley reſigned againſt the next general election. The conteſt on this occaſion continued eight days, ending on Wedneſday, October 19, 1774. The poll-book was printed. Sir Walter Blackett had 1432 votes, Sir Matthew White Ridley 1411; the hon. Conſtantine John Phipps, (afterwards Lord Mulgrave) 795; and Thomas Delaval, eſq. 677. 2162 perſons voted on this occaſion; a ſmaller number, by 229, than at the great conteſt in 1741, although 600 are ſaid to have been admitted to their freedom at this election.

Sir John Trevelyan, bart. was choſen, March 14, 1777, on a vacancy occaſioned by the death of his uncle, Sir Walter Blackett, at London, February 11, of that year. There was a hard conteſt on this occaſion. It began on Thurſday, 26th February, and laſted fourteen days. Sir John Trevelyan, bart. polled 1163; and Andrew Robinſon Bowes, eſq. 1068 votes.

votes. Mr. Bowes petitioned againſt Sir John; but no proof of bribery being produced, his election was declared valid.

September 21, 1780, Sir Matthew White Ridley, bart. and Andrew Robinſon Bowes, eſq. were choſen. Sir M. W. Ridley had 1408 votes; Mr. Bowes 1135; Mr. Delaval 1085.

At this election 2245 freemen voted; of which number it is remarkable, that 862 were ſingle voters, termed *plumpers*; viz. 231 for Sir Matthew; 514 for Mr. Bowes; and 117 for Mr. Delaval. The latter gentleman petitioned againſt Mr. Bowes, and ſome burgeſſes againſt Sir M. W. Ridley; but nothing was done by the committee in either petition.

A. D. 1784, Sir Matthew White Ridley, bart. and Charles Brandling, of Gosforth-houſe, eſq. were elected to repreſent this town in parliament.

In the year 1790, the ſame two gentlemen were re-choſen; as were they again at the general election in 1796; but, on account of the ill ſtate of Mr. Brandling's health, he reſigned his ſeat in the year 1798, when his ſon, Charles John Brandling, was choſen in his ſtead, without oppoſition.

MERCHANT ADVENTURERS.

The Phenicians were among the moſt early of the nations who turned their attention ſolely to trade. That enterprizing people demonſtrated to mankind that commercial intercourſe was the moſt powerful cement of ſociety; and that, while it rendered the various productions of different climes, and of the moſt remote nations, one common fund anſwering all the wants of man; it at the ſame time ſoftened the

the manners of the moſt uncultivated, and diſarmed the hand of the violent and the rapacious. To the aſſiſtance of commerce, ſociety will be found indebted for the greater part of whatever contributes to the eaſe, convenience, or elegance of life. But an inſular ſituation has ever been found moſt friendly to trade, and indeed (ſays a modern hiſtorian) every acknowledgment is due to it from the inhabitants of iſlands; and we of Britain, with our very exiſtence, perhaps owe to trade all that gives value to our preſent being, our progreſs in ſcience, our improvement in every art, our perſonal ſecurity, our national opulence and grandeur, and, probably, what ought to be of the higheſt concern to us, our ſuperior knowledge of religious truth.

Mercantile ſocieties, anciently called guilds, or fraternities, are thought to have been firſt founded in Europe near the latter end of the ſeventh century. The borough of Newcaſtle ſtood much indebted to the patronage of king John, and was honoured very early in his reign with extenſive and new franchiſes. And it was in the ſeventeenth year of his reign that he conſtituted in it a ſociety of free merchants. This fraternity he exempted from pleading any where without its walls to any plea but that concerning foreign trade. He releaſed them from the duty of toll, laſtage, pontage, and paſſage in the ſeaports of his dominions at home and abroad, empowering the mayor of Newcaſtle, or ſheriff of Northumberland, to give them reparation for whatever injury they might ſuſtain.

Anciently Engliſh merchants were prohibited from carrying ſtaple commodities out of the realm; but Newcaſtle, by a charter of king Edward III. in the year

year 1353, was made a ſtaple town in common with nine others, whither the merchants of England were by act of parliament to carry their wool, cloth, lead, tin, &c.

December 4th, 1504, a licence was granted by king Henry VII. to the governors and merchants of the merchants' guild, of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, empowering them, till the firſt of Auguſt next, to buy any wools or woolfels, of the growth of Northumberland, Cumberland, Weſtmoreland, Durham, Allerton and Richmondſhires, and ſhip them from Newcaſtle to any part of Flanders, Brabant, Holland, Zealand, or any foreign parts, at two ſhippings, paying for every ſack of flour ten ſhillings, and the like ſum for every two hundred and forty woolfels.

December 11, 1509, king Henry VIII. renewed the above grant; and, in 1517, he made an exemplification of former grants to the merchants of Newcaſtle.

The exports of this ſociety, about the year 1520, appear to have been canvas, ſheep-ſkins, lamb-fels, lead, grindſtones, coals, and rough-tanned leather.

Edward VI. 1546, granted a charter to the merchants of Newcaſtle, by the title of Merchant Venturers, in the ports of Brabant, beyond the ſeas; to conſiſt of a governor, twelve aſſiſtants, and two wardens; to be elected and ſworn on the ninth of October in every year; to have perpetual ſucceſſion, power to ſue and to be ſued, &c. a clerk, a ſeal, and beadle; power to purchaſe lands, to make by-laws, to buy and ſhip to foreign parts wool and woolfels of the growth of Northumberland, &c. as before by Henry VII.

A by-law of this ſociety, dated 1554, concerning the apprentices of the fellowſhip, exhibits an intereſting picture of the then dreſs and manners; it is entitled an act for the apparel of apprentices, November 1, 1554. After inveighing againſt the vices and exceſſes of the times, it adds, "What dyſeng, carding, and mumming, what typling, dauncing, and braſenge of harlots! what garded coats, jagged hoſe lyned with ſilk and cut ſhoes! what uſe of gitterns by night, what wereing of berds! what daggers is by them worn croſſe over thwarte their backs that this theire doings are more cumlye and decent for rageng ruffians than ſeemlie for honeſt apprentizes!" We wonder what our beaux eſprits, our bloods would ſay to all this.

Anno 1603, it was alſo ordered by a by-law of this fraternity, that "their apprentices ſhould be forbidden to daunce, dice, card, mum, or uſe any muſic, either by nyght or by day in the ſtreets. They are not to wear any velvat or lace on their apparell, neither any ſilk garters, ſilk or velvat girdles, ſilk points, worſted or jerſey ſtockings, ſhoe-ſtrings of ſilk, pumps, pantofles, or cork ſhoes, hats lyned with velvat, nor clokes and daggers, neither ſhall they wear their haire longe, nor locks at their ears like ruffians!"

Anno 1649, a by-law of this ſociety ordered ,, that every apprentice ſhould cutt his haire from the crown of his head, keep his foreheade bare, his lockes, if any, ſhall not reatch below the lap of his eare, and the ſame length to be obſerved behind. And if in caſe any be ſicke, he ſhall weare a linnen cap and no other, and that without lace. And they ſhall weare no beaver hatts, nor caſtors, if their hatts be blacke, they ſhall have blacke bands, if grey hatts, their bands ſuitable.

ſuitable. They ſhall weare no ſilke, ſtuffe, or camell haire, &c."

In the year 1656, reſpecting apprentices, there is this curious preamble, "Whereas in theſe late times, wherein iniquity abounds, we find, by woeful experience, a great apoſtacy and falling off from the truth to popery, quakeriſm, and all manner of hereſy, and and unheard-of blaſphemy and profaneneſs. Enacted, that no popiſh recuſant, quaker, or any who ſhall not attend duly on his maſter at the public ordinances; or any who is baſe-begotten, crook-backed, or lame, or any other way deformed, be taken an apprentice, on pain of being fined one hundred marks. And every apprentice convicted of fornication ſhould pay a fine of one hundred pounds."

This ſociety agreed, 1671, to pay the duty of primage, for goods imported within the port of Tyne. The imports are wainſcots, great balks, boom ſpars, &c. &c.

Mr. Thomas Daviſon, merchant-adventurer, deviſed to this ſociety certain lands in the Leazes, of the yearly value of ten pounds.

The ſociety, anno 1681, ſold ninety-four ridges of land in the Leazes, deviſed to them by Thomas Daviſon, to the corporation for ever, at the annual rent of thirteen pounds.

Mr John Rumney bequeathed, 1694, to this fraternity of merchants, the ſum of one hundred pounds, to be lent out to a yo ung brother, without intereſt, for three years.

Mr. Timothy Davidſon, merchant-adventurer and boothman, by his will, dated February 7, 1694, gave the ſum of three hundred pounds to this fraternity, on condition that two-thirds of the intereſt thereof

ſhould be paid to the poor brethren and widows of the company, in the month of December every year, and the remaining third part to the four churches of Newcaſtle.

Joſeph Atkinſon, merchant-adventurer and boothman, bequeathed to this ſociety one hundred pounds, to be lent to a young trading brother for five years; dated March 13, 1712.

Thomas Daviſon, eſq. of Ferry-hill, in the county of Durham, by his declaration of truſt, dated Auguſt 19, 1755, acknowledged his having ſunk five hundred pounds in the corporation of Newcaſtle, upon truſt, that they ſhould pay the yearly intereſt of the ſaid ſum, at four per cent. whenever it ſhould amount to fifty pounds, to a ſon of a merchant of this ſociety, or to any young man who, by ſervitude, ſhould obtain his franchiſe thereof, to aſſiſt him in beginning buſineſs for himſelf; deputing firſt Sir Walter Blackett, bart. Morton and Thomas Daviſon, eſqrs. to appoint ſuch young merchants: and, after the reſpective deaths of theſe gentlemen, the mayor, aldermen, ſheriff, and common-council of Newcaſtle, for the time being, in common-council aſſembled.

With ſeveral other bequeſts, which our limits will not allow us to inſert.

Thus it appears, that the merchants' company is of very high antiquity; as they themſelves ſet forth, in an application to parliament, 1644, that they have been a company of merchants ever ſince king John's time, and have been confirmed in their privileges by many royal grants and charters; and that they have been a guild of merchants ever ſince the 17th year of king John, (they add) which is a year before the grant to the merchants of London.

They

They poſſeſs, by charter, ſeveral excluſive privileges, and are regulated by a code of by-laws, judicious and ſalutary, for promoting the common intereſt of this opulent fraternity, and of the town.

The hall in which they hold their public meetings is in the eaſt end of the town-court; an elegant and ſpacious room, commanding a fine view of the river.

The particulars of a ſubject (ſays Brand, with great propriety) which is found of ſuch moment in the general conſideration, cannot be thought trivial; nor will that labour ſeem unimportant which had collected the ſcattered memorials of thoſe inhabitants of this place, who, devoting themſelves to the profeſſion of merchandize, have, in a long and uninterrupted ſucceſſion, with the gradual improvement of their town, aggrandized their reſpective families, and contributed in no ſmall degree, to the advancement of the ſtate.

Governors of the Merchants' Company.

1480 March 23, Thomas Penreth, clerk
1490 October 13, Peter Bewick, maſter
1513 John Blaxton, maſter
1516 John Brandling
1517 Edward Baxter
1518 The ſame
1519 Thomas Horſley
1519 The ſame
1528 Edward Swinburn
1533 Thomas Horſley
1536 Robert Brandling
1546 Henry Anderſon
1547 Robert Brandling
1548 Mark Shaftoe
1549 Cuthbert Elliſon
1550 Robert Briham
1551 Bertram Anderſon
1552 Robert Lewen
1553 Cuthbert Blunt
1554 Cuthbert Elliſon
1555 Robert Hodgſon
1556 Chriſtopher Mitford
1557 Bertram Anderſon
1558 Oſwald Chapman
1559 Robert Elliſon
1560 Chriſtopher Muſgrave
1561 John Wilkinſon
1564 Robert Brandling
1569 Chriſtopher Mitford
1573 William Selby
1575 Henry Anderſon
1576 Henry Brandling
1578 Mark Shaftoe
1580 Richard Hodgſon
1587 Edward

1587 Edward Lewen
1588 Roger Nicholſon
1589 William Selby
1590 Robert Atkinſon
1591 George Farneby
1592 Roger Raw
1593 Lionel Maddiſon
1594 Henry Anderſon
1595 William Riddle
1596 Ralph Jenniſon
1597 Henry Chapman
1598 George Farneby
1599 William Jenniſon
1600 Sir George Selby, knt.
1601 Francis Anderſon
1602 Robert Dudley
1603 William Warmouth
1604 Thomas Riddle
1605 Lionel Maddiſon
1606 Sir George Selby, knt.
1607 James Clavering
1608 Henry Chapman
1609 Thomas Liddel
1610 William Jenniſon
1611 Sir George Selby, knt.
1612 William Warmouth
1622 Sir George Selby, knt.
1623 Henry Maddiſon
1624 William Hall
1625 Thomas Liddle
1626 Alexander Daviſon
1628 Robert Bewick
1629 John Clavering
1630 William Warmouth
1639 The ſame
1640 Alexander Daviſon
1641 Leonard Carr
1646 Ralph Grey
1647 The ſame
1648 Chriſtopher Nicholſon
The ſame till 1670
1670 Thomas Daviſon
The ſame till 1675
1676 Robert Elliſon
1678 Timothy Daivſon
1696 Nicholas Fenwick
1704 Nicholas Ridley
1711 Robert Fenwick
1712 Matthew White
1739 Matthew Ridley
Sir Mathew White Ridley, bart. the preſent governor.

SOCIETY OF HOASTMEN.

The coal-trade being, of all other branches of commerce, of the greateſt conſequence, not only to the inhabitants of Newcaſtle, but, as it extends its influence to the nation at large, conſtituting one of the principal conveniences of life, opulence to the mercantile branches, and ſecurity and dignity to the ſtate, whatever, therefore, reſpects this ſource of national greatneſs claims, in a particular manner, our attention. We will not, however, in the preſent ſtage of our hiſtory, when deſcribing the conſtitution and regulations

gulations of the ſociety of hoaſtmen or fitters, confound this with an account of the coal-trade, as we reſerve this important department for a place appropriated to itſelf: and therefore we ſhall not enter into all the minutiæ, or every leſſer circumſtance, reſpecting this opulent and very conſequential ſociety, ſelecting only the moſt informing and important.

It appears that a ſociety of hoaſtmen had exiſted as a guild or fraternity in the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne from time immemorial, before their incorporation by royal charter, which is ſaid to have been granted on the following occaſion: About the year 1599 queen Elizabeth requiring of the mayor and burgeſſes of that town the great arrears of a duty payable to the crown, of two-pence per chaldron on coals ſold to non freemen in the port of Tyne, (the date of which deficiency is not aſcertained) it appeared that the payment of this impoſt had been ſo long neglected, that they found themſelves unable to comply with the royal demand; on which they beſought her majeſty to remit them the ſum, and to incorporate the old guild of hoaſtmen, who, on their incorporation, ſhould, by a grant to the queen, her heirs and ſucceſſors, for ever, pay one ſhilling for every chalder of coals exported from thence to the free people of England. Theſe are the obſervations of Mr Gardiner in his England's Grievances; but the hoaſtmen ſay, they made this grant to her majeſty out of pure loyalty and goodwill, and to enable her to ſupport the realm againſt its foreign enemies. The queen ſeems indeed to countenance this patriotic motive of the hoſtmen, as ſhe obſerves "that the ſhilling per chaldron was granted to her by the hoſtmen."

What

What is juſtly called the great charter to the town of Newcaſtle, granted by this ſovereign in the 42d year of her reign, includes a clauſe whereby this fraternity is incorporated, and in which forty-eight perſons are named therein for the better loading and diſpoſing of pit-coal and ſtones upon the Tyne; and for their own better ſupport as a ſociety, with the title of governor, ſtewards, and brethren of the fraternity of hoaſtmen in the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, a common ſeal is granted them. The governor and ſtewards are to be annully elected on the fourth of January. Power is given them to load and unload any where on the river Tyne between Newcaſtle and Sparhawk, yet as near Newcaſtle as they can, notwithſtanding the ſtatute of the twenty-firſt of Henry the eight.——*See the abſtract of this charter in the preceding pages.*

The term Oſt, or Hoſtman, ſeems to have taken its origin from a paſſage in a ſtatute of Henry IV. in the year 1404, cap. 9. Merchants Aliens. "And alſo it is ordained and ſtabliſhed, that in every city, town, and port of the ſea in England, where the ſaid merchants aliens or ſtrangers be or ſhall be repairing, ſufficient *booſtes* ſhall be aſſigned to the ſame merchants by the mayor, ſheriffes, or bailiffes of the ſaid cities, townes and portes of the ſea. And that the ſaid merchants, &c. ſhall dwell in no other plaſe, but with their ſaid hoſtes ſo to be aſſigned; and that the ſame hoſtes ſhall take for their travaile in the manner as was accuſtomed in old time." *Statutes by Barker.*

The ſubſequent regulations reſpecting the meaſure, the loading, and the duties on coals, we refer to the article coal-trade, digging, vending, &c. of coals.

Governors

Governors of the Hoaſtmen's Company,

Choſen annually, June 4th.

1600 Mr William Jenniſon
1601 Mr George Selbie
1602 Mr Francis Anderſon
1603 Mr Robert Dudley
1604 Mr Thomas Riddell
1605 Mr William Jenniſon
1606 The ſame
1607 Mr George Selbie
1608 Mr James Clavering
1609 Mr Henry Chapman
1610 Mr Thomas Liddell
1611 Mr Francis Anderſon
1612 Mr George Selbie
1613 Mr Francis Anderſon
1614 Mr Thomas Riddell
1615 The ſame
1616 Mr George Selbie
1617 Mr James Clavering
1627 Mr Peter Riddell
1636 Mr Thomas Liddell
1637 The ſame
1638 Mr Thomas Marley
1639 Sir Lyonel Maddiſon
1640 Mr Robert Anderſon
1641 Mr Nicholas Cole
1642 Mr Leonard Carr
1643 The ſame
1644 Sir John Marley, mayor
1645 Sir Lyonel Maddiſon
1646 Mr Ralph Grey
1647 The ſame
1648 The ſame
1649-50-51-52 The ſame
1653 Mr Leonard Carr
1654 The ſame
1655 Mr Robert Shafto
1656-7-8-9 The ſame
1660 Mr John Emerſon
1661 The ſame
1662 Mr William Blackett
1663 The ſame
1664 Sir Jas. Clavering, bart.
1665 Sir Francis Liddell, knt.
1666 Mr Henry Maddiſon
1667-8 William Blackett, eſq.
1669 Ralph Jenniſon, eſq.
1670 till 1674 The ſame
1675 Thomas Jenniſon, eſq.
1676 Sir Francis Anderſon, knt.
1677 Sir Ralph Carr, knt.
1678 till 1683. The ſame
1684 Sir William Blackett
1685 Wm Aubone, eſq. mayor
1686 Sir Henry Brabant, knt.
1687 Nich. Cole, eſq. mayor
1688 Sir Wm. Creak, knt.
1689 Mr Thomas Bewick
1690 Wm Carr, eſq. mayor
1091 Sir Wm Blackett, knt.
1692 The ſame
1693 Mr George Harriſon
1694 Nicholas Fenwick, eſq.
1695 William Aubone, eſq.
1696-7-8 9-1700 The ſame
1791 Matthew White, eſq.
1702-3-4 The ſame
1705 Sir Ralph Carr, knt.
1706-7 The ſame
1708 Mr Henry Riddell
1709 Rob. Fenwick, eſq. mayor
1710-11 The ſame
1712 Matthew White, eſq.

1713-14-15 Matt. White, eſq.
1716 Richard Ridley, eſq.
1725 Sir William Blackett
1728 George Liddell, eſq.
1740 John Ord, eſq.
1745 John Simpſon, eſq.

John Simpſon, eſq. was ſucceeded by J. E. Blackett, eſq. who is the preſent governor.

The SOCIETY of MASTERS and MARINERS, *Generally named* The Trinity-House.

It is certainly an important part of the political wiſdom of a nation to know where principally "its ſtrength lies." And by experience, and never more ſo than during the late arduous conteſt with almoſt all the maritime powers of Europe, we find, that the chief ſource of our power lies in our naval force,—our wooden walls. In tracing, therefore, the origin of a ſociety, to whoſe good ſervices not only the port of Tyne, but alſo our national commerce in general, owes very conſiderable obligations, require that we give to its hiſtory a more particular attention.

So remote as A. D. 1335, the mariners of Newcaſtle upon Tyne are diſtinguiſhed in our annals for their bravery by ſea, and their gallant behaviour in the national ſervice.

This ſociety was firſt denominated an ancient religious or ſecular guild, with the title of the "Guild or Fraternity of the Bleſſed Trinity," conſiſting of both ſexes, and founded by ſome ancient royal authority.

In the year 1492, this ſociety appears to have been an incorporated body, purchaſing by the feoffees, the ſite of their preſent houſe; for which a red roſe was to be preſented yearly, at midſummer, if demanded. A pottle of wine, for ſome additional grant, continued to be paid annually, above a century after.

Anno

Anno 1505, the ſociety ordered, that a hall, chapel, and lodgings, ſhould be erected on the ſite of the preſent Trinity-houſe, at their common expence, for their poor brethren.

October 5, 1536, king Henry VIII. granted a charter of new incorporation to this guild or fraternity, conſiſting, at that time, both of men and women, out of love to the Trinity, and to encourage the art of navigation; which ſociety, in future, was to be governed by a maſter and four wardens, and by the name of "The Maſter and Wardens of the Holy and Indiviſible Trinity;" to have a common ſeal, implead and be impleaded, &c. with licence to build and embattle two towers, the one at the entrance of the haven of Tyne, and the other on the hill adjoining; in each of which lights were to be maintained every night; for the ſupport of which they were empowered to receive fourpence for every foreign ſhip, and twopence for every Engliſh one, arriving at the port of Tyne. The ſucceeding ſovereigns, Edward VI. and Mary, confirmed the above charters.

A. D. 1584, queen Elizabeth granted to this ſociety a new charter, founding them anew, by the name of "The Maſter, Pilots, and Seamen of the Trinity-houſe of Newcaſtle upon Tyne;" to be a perpetual brotherhood, conſiſting of nineteen elder brethren, who with the reſt, ſtyled younger brethren, ſhould yearly, on the Sunday next after Candlemas, chooſe a maſter, two elder wardens, and two younger ones; as alſo four aſſiſtants out of the elder brethren, with as many out of the younger, for the government of the fraternity, and ſafe cuſtody of the poſſeſſions thereof: they were alſo to plead and be impleaded, &c. &c.

January 18, 1606, king James I. granted a new charter to this ſociety, conſtituting them a body politic, by the name of "Maſter, Pilots, and Seamen, of the Trinity-houſe of Newcaſtle upon Tyne," to be a perpetual brotherhood, and appointing a maſter, twelve elder brethren, two elder wardens, with their two aſſiſtants, and two younger wardens, with the like number of aſſiſtants. They were to have a common ſeal. Their juriſdiction was extended to Blithe, Sunderland, Hartlepool, Whitby, and Staithes. Power is given them to impoſe fines on their offending brethren, and to appoint pilots for the river Tyne, with its creeks and members; who are to have, for conducting every laden veſſel, twelvepence for every foot of water ſhe ſhall draw; and for every light ſhip ſhall have eightpence. The duty of primage was confirmed to them for veſſels from beyond the ſeas coming into the river, or its creeks and members. Twopence per ton for wine, oil, and other things ſold by the ton, (fiſh killed and brought in by Engliſhmen excepted) and threepence per laſt of flax, hemp, pitch, tar, or other things ſold by the laſt. Aliens are to pay the duty before they leave the port; and free merchants and inhabitants of Newcaſtle, within ten days after their loading. All this to go to the ſupport of twelve poor brethren, or their wives, or ſhipwrecked mariners.

Lightage was alſo confirmed to them, of every owner's ſhip, Engliſh born, fourpence each time; and of every owner's ſhip that is an alien, twelvepence. The buoying, canning, marking, and beaconing of the river Tyne, was alſo confirmed to them; for which they are to receive from each ſhip, whoſe owner is Engliſh, and burden above twenty chaldrons of coals, four-

fourpence; of the ſame when under twenty chaldrons, twopence; and of every alien ſixpence. They were alſo empowered to hold lands and tenements under thirty pounds per annum, clear value.

Anno 1607, the lords of the privy-council directed by warrant the officers of the ports of Newcaſtle, Yarmouth, Hull, Boſton and Lynn, the payment of lightage and buoyage to this ſociety.

In a conference with the Trinity-houſe of Deptford Strand it was agreed to make the duty on each Engliſh ſhip 6d. and an additional duty of 4d. making in all one ſhilling and fourpence on each foreign veſſel. This was confirmed by the privy-council anno 1613.

October 16, 1634, the ſociety purchaſed a piece of waſte ground at Pow-Pans, near North Shields, thirty ells in length and ſixty in breadth, as a ſituation for the low lighthouſe.

Anno 1634 the chapel of the Trinity-houſe was built and beautified, and ſome new rooms in the ſquare were ordered to be finiſhed. The Scots had poſſeſſion of this houſe when they took Newcaſtle in the year 1740, but general Leſly granted a warrant for the ſafeguard of their lights at the entrance of their river Tyne.

Anno 1665, the council of trade under Oliver Cromwell, lord protector, granted this ſociety to erect two lighthouſes on the Fern Iſlands.

July 1, 1687, a new charter was granted to this ſociety, with an additional duty to the pilotage, viz. for every foot a veſſel ſhould draw, 6d. for every ſtranger's laden, and 4d. for every ſtranger's light veſſel; ſo that an Engliſhman's veſſel ſhould pay one ſhilling, and a ſtranger's one ſhilling and ſixpence per foot;

foot; and for every Engliſhman's light veſſel eightpence, and for every ſtranger's one ſhilling. Lightage to be for every Engliſhman's veſſel eightpence, and for every ſtranger's one ſhilling and fourpence. Buoyage for every Engliſhman's veſſel ſixpence above twenty chaldrons, and fourpence under twenty; eightpence for every alien's.

John Bee, maſter and mariner, bequeathed 100l. to be put out for the uſe of two younger brethren, and to two others, for other two years ſucceſſively for ever.

May 9, 1712, the fraternity ordered a free ſchool to be erected in the Trinity-houſe, for the inſtruction of the children of brethren, in writing, arithmetic, and mathematics.

January 20, 1716, ordered that prayers ſhould be read every month-day in their chapel. The chaplain's ſalary eight pounds per annum, with two guineas for a ſermon annually on Handſel-monday, the firſt Monday in the year.

In the year 1721 the great hall of the Trinity-houſe was built; and the widow's apartments in 1724, with inſcriptions, mentioning under what maſter, wardens, &c. they were erected.

In 1753 the ſchool was rebuilt, Francis Pemberton, maſter. Mr. Robert Harriſon, one of the firſt mathematicians in the age, taught in this ſchool; and alſo Mr Fryer, a principal land-ſurveyor, and who publiſhed a map of the Tyne.

A. D. 1746, when his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland returned from Scotland, after having defeated the rebels at Culloden, on his way through Newcaſtle, was preſented with the freedom of this ſociety in a gold box.

An

An addreſs was preſented by Sir William Stephenſon in 1771, to Braſs Croſby, eſq. lord mayor of London, for his patriotic defence of the laws and liberties of Engliſhmen, &c. by this fraternity.

Another addreſs was preſented to admiral Keppel in 1779, from this fraternity, accompanied with a gold box.

Since the above period this very reſpectable body have addreſſed his Majeſty on different occaſions, expreſſive of their firm attachment to his perſon and government.

The buildings of the Trinity-houſe are not ſhowy, but exceedingly well adapted for the various purpoſes of buſineſs, of devotion, and of charity; for all which they have long been employed. As trade encreaſes, which, for many years, it has rapidly done, the funds of the Trinity-houſe muſt encreaſe in proportion.

From a calculation made by Mr Aubone, ſecretary, the ſociety allows each widow twelve ſhillings per month, a gown and petticoat every two years, and provide them with coals, and the advice of a ſurgeon when neceſſary. Their rents in the Broad-chare and Trinity-lane amount to about 100l. per annum.

Upon the whole, this reſpectable and very ancient fraternity, whoſe revenue, on an average, amounts to about 800l. per annum, ſupport within their houſe at preſent eight men and twelve women, being their full number: they have alſo upon their liſt about twenty extra poor, ſome of whom have five ſhillings per month, others twenty ſhillings per quarter, according to their ſeveral neceſſities.

Maſters

Maſters of the Trinity-Houſe, compiled from the dormant Book and other Records of this Society.

"A. D. 1555 Maſter Thomas Shaldfourthe, heed of the howis theis yer"
1588 Robert Johnſon, maſter
1589 John Dobſon, maſter
1590 James Nicolſon, maſter
1592 Roger Rawe, maſter
1593 Edward Johnſon, maſter
1594 Thomas Tucker, maſter
1595 Johne Johnſon, maiſter
1597 William Eadone, maiſter
1598 James Nycolſon, maſter
1600 Edward Barde, maſter
1602 Mr Errington, maſter
1605 Martin Errington
1606 Robert Chambers
1607 Bartram Simpſon
1608 Edward Brown
1609 Edward Bard
1610 Robert Chambers
1611 Martin Errington
1612 William Mawe
1613 Robert Chambers
1614 The ſame
1615 William Cook
1616 John Johnſon
1617 Martin Errington
1618 John Holborn
1619 Thomas Simpſon
1620 William Cook
1621 Edward Johnſon
1622 John Johnſon
1623 Oſwald Nixon
1624 Robert Holborn
1625 Robert Harrigat
1626 Edward Bowmer
1627 Thomas Holbourn
1628 William Carr
1629 Phineas Allen
1630 George Cooke
1631 Thomas Lamb
1632 John Harriſon
1633 George Errington
1634 Thomas Dixon
1635 Robert Brown
1636 Thomas Sharp
1637 Edward Bulmer
1638 Humphry Blunt
1639 Thomas Stobbs
1640 Thomas Dixon
1641 Robert Blythman
1642 James Denton
1643 Phineas Allen
1644 William Parker
1645 Thomas Stobbs
1646 Phineas Allen
1647 Ralph Fell
1648 Richard Elbrough
1649 Robert Carr
1650 Henry Bird
1651 Edward Rand
1652 Phineas Allen
1653 Thomas Stobbs
1654 John Simpſon
1655 Thomas Dixon
1656 Thomas Anbone
1657 Thomas Stubbs
1658 Richard Elbrough
1659 Cuthbert Atkinſon
1660 Rowland Pithy
1661 Henry Bird
1662 Henry Kirkhouſe
1663 John Simpſon
1664 Edward Nixon

1665 George Shadwell
1666 Thomas Aubone
1667 Thomas Dixon
1668 Cuthbert Atkinſon
1669 Robert Cooke
1670 James Rand
1671 Henry Kirkhouſe
1672 Abraham Redhead
1673 Abraham Dixon
1674 Richard Elbrough
1675 Edward Nixon
1676 Richard Righe
1677 John Wetwang
1678 Thomas Aubone
1679 Edward Carr
1680 Edward Atkinſon
1681 Anthony White
1682 William Leak
1683 John Wetwang
1684 Thomas Richardſon
1685 John Bee
1686 William Hyndmer
1687 Richard Hutton
1688 Thomas Rewcaſtle
1689 Joſeph Swaddell
1690 John Wilkinſon
1691 John Vaughan
1692 Thomas Watſon
1693 Thomas Brown
1694 Edward Carr
1695 Francis Partis
1696 John Bee
1697 Abraham Dixon
1698 Charles Newton
1699 Robert Reed
1700 Nicholas Burdon
1701 William Hyndmer
1702 Robert Procter
1703 John Hyndmer
1704 Henry Shadforth
1705 Jonathan Filher
1706 John Coatſworth
1707 Matthew Newton
1708 Abraham Bosfield
1709 Thomas Rewcaſtle
1710 Thomas Browne
1711 Robert Reed
1712 Robert Bailiff
1713 John Welford
1714 Joſeph Milburn
1715 John Binks
1716 John Hewbank
1717 James Liddell
1718 Nicholas Burden
1719 Henry Shadforth
1720 Robert Bailiff
1721 John Welford
1722 Joſeph Milburn
1723 Thomas Simpſon
1724 Thomas Peighin
1725 James Carr
1726 Sir Chaloner Ogle
1727 Peregrine Henzell
1728 Joſeph Marſhall
1729 Henry Towart
1730 Matthew Proctor
1731 Henry Fiſher
1732 Matthias Giles
1733 John Thompſon
1734 Francis Pemberton
1735 William Errington
1736 Richard Baxter
1737 William Harriſon
1738 Charles Liddell
1739-40 William Errington
1741 Matthew Harriſon
1742 Thomas Procter
1743 Nicholas Burdon
1744 James Carr
1745 Robert Hudſon

1746 Francis Heath
1747 George Stephenſon
1748 John Cole
1749 Charles Liddell
1750 William Errington
1751 Henry Shadforth
1752 Matthias Giles
1753 Francis Pemberton
1754 William Harriſon
1755 Jonathan Blagdon
1756 Thomas Procter
1757 Robert Hudſon
1758 Francis Heath
1759 George Stephenſon
1760 John Cole
1761 Richard Armſtrong
1762 Purvis Siſſon
1763 John Scaiſe
1764 Thomas Southan
1765 Jonathan Airey
1766 Thomas Maude
1767 William Hedley
1768 Henry Shadforth
1769 Robert Hedley
1770 Chriſtopher Ord
1771 Jonathan Blagdon
1772 Matthew Hunter
1773 Henry Shadforth, jun.
1774 John Marſhall
1775 Cuthbert Adamſon
1776 Richard Armſtrong
1777 George Stephenſon
1778 Henry Stodart
1779 James Hume
1780 Purvis Siſſon
1781 James Hume
1782 George Robinſon
1783 John Hawks
1784 Thomas Shadforth
1785 William Sparke
1786 Joſeph Airey
1787 Thomas Hogg
1788 Iſaac Nicholſon
1789 Matthew Hedley
1790 Jon. Airey
1791 John Atkinſon
1792 John Anderſon
1793 John Cram
1794 Henry Shadforth
1795 Cuthbert Adamſon
1796 John Reay
1797 Thompſon Chapman
1798 William Brown
1799 John Oſtle
1800 Thomas Shadforth
1801 William Harle

We have given an account of the three great trading companies, viz. merchant-adventurers, the hoaſtmen's company, and the maſter and mariner's company, or the Trinity-houſe. We ſhall now proceed to the

TWELVE

TWELVE COMPANIES, *called* MYSTERIES.

Before we mention theſe in order, we would ſhortly obſerve, that the word myſtery does not imply intricacy, or any thing involved in obſcurity, difficult to be comprehended; but is an old French word, *meſtière*, for *metier*, a trade or buſineſs.

"In the ſweat of thy face ſhalt thou eat bread, till thou return into the ground," was the doom pronounced upon the firſt man, for the violation of the law of his nature. And yet labour, with moderation, is certainly, in the preſent ſtate of ſociety, not only his duty, but agreeable to his nature, and the ſource of his happineſs. "All is the gift of induſtry; whatever exalts, embelliſhes, or renders life delightful," ſays the poet of the ſeaſons; the truth of which may be amply illuſtrated from the objects which ſurround us. To the induſtry of her inhabitants is our iſland, in a peculiar manner, indebted for her opulence and conſequence among the nations of Europe. Hence ſhe commands "the exalted ſtores of every brighter clime;" and hence Britain has long been the ſeat of commerce, ſcience, and the arts. Indeed, wherever ſocial man is found, induſtry, in ſome degree, muſt be his duty and his intereſt; for no where does nature amply provide for her children independently of their exertions.

But the Supreme Being has wiſely implanted in the minds of men a vaſt diverſity of propenſities, in the various purſuits of life, inclining ſome to cultivate the earth, others to ply the mechanic tool, "to hew the wood, to chip the ſtone, till by degrees the finiſhed fabrics roſe;" while others purſue trade, in all its various branches and ramifications. Nor has any

municipal town in the kingdom, of its dimenſions, reared a greater number of active and ingenious artiſts, laborious and uſeful tradeſmen, than Newcaſtle, the ſubject of our preſent hiſtory. We ſhall, therefore, give a ſuccinct account of the twelve incorporated companies, in their order, according to the dates of their reſpective charters.

I. Merchants of Woollen Cloth, otherwiſe called Drapers.

The firſt notices which we have of this ſociety are ſo very ancient, as in the reign of king Edward III. in the ordinances for the government of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, October 20, 1342.

The oldeſt ordinary of this ſociety, the original of which having affixed to it many ſeals, ſkin-marks, &c. with names of the brethren, dated June 1ſt, 1512, is ſtill preſerved in their archives. It enacts, that two men ſhould be choſen annually, by moſt voices of the ſociety, for the election of the mayor and officers of the town, at the Spital; *i. e.* St. Mary's hoſpital: that no apprentice ſhall be taken under the term of ſeven years; that, on the Wedneſday after the election of the mayor, they ſhould meet at the Maiſon-Dieu, on the Sandhill, to chooſe their Stewards, two auditors, and for the election of the mayor for the enſuing year; and that whoſoever of the fellowſhip ſhould be choſen mayor, ſheriff, chamberlain, or clerk of the chamber, ſhould be exempted that year from the office of auditor.

About 1650, a violent diſſenſion took place between ſome of the merchant-adventurers of Newcaſtle and this fraternity; the former claiming the ſole privilege of being ſtyled merchant-drapers, and of ſending

ſending two members to the election of the mayor and other officers. This ſeems to have ended in the excluſion of the true ſociety, or at leaſt of that part of them by whom the unqueſtionable records of that fraternity have been tranſmitted.

A. D. 1652, an ordinary was granted to this ſociety by the mayor, aldermen, and ſheriff of this town, under the ſeal of the corporation, preſcribing an oath on admiſſion: that they ſhould meet at their ancient meeting-houſe, called the Maiſon de Dieu, every Wedneſday before Michaelmas, to chooſe new wardens and paſs their accounts; to chooſe two new auditors on the Monday after St. Bartholomew's day, in St. George's porch, in St. Nicholas' church; that whoſoever of the fraternity ſhould be choſen to the firſt election, or ſtanding election of the mayor, &c. ſhould preſerve the dignity and priority of the company, as being firſt named in the charter, claiming their meeting-place for the company in the ſouth corner at the eaſt end of the election-houſe; and their chairs for the former election next to the mayor's chair and on the right hand; as alſo their place in St. Nicholas' church, which was the north ſide of St. George's porch, under a penalty of forty ſhillings. That thoſe of the company who were aldermen ſhould have priority of place at their meetings, and be received as juſtices of the peace. That apprentices ſhould ſerve eight years, and that no ſecond one ſhould be taken till the firſt had ſerved four years; and that none ſhould be taken whoſe father was not a freeholder, to the value of forty ſhillings a-year.

Records of the Draper's Company.

II. Mercers.

II. Mercers.

After every reſearch, no record of this ſociety can now be found. A copy, however, of their oath on admiſſion is preſerved in the books of the merchant-adventurers, of which this ſociety is one of the three members.

It appears, anno 1668, that the company of mercers and boothmen were at that time united.

In the reign of James II. the mercers, drapers, and boothmen, though diſtinct companies, appear to have had their meetings and aſſemblies as if they had been but one fraternity. This hint is found in the records of the company of butchers.

III. Skinners.

This fraternity have their meeting-houſe in the Black-Friars. The ordinary, or record of this company, is ſo remote as the year 1437. They met annually on the Tueſday after Michaelmas, to chooſe their ſtewards and paſs their accounts. One rule obſerved at their meetings was, that if any member ſmoaked tobacco, he was to be fined threepence.

They ſeem to have incorporated themſelves with the fraternity of glovers, anno 1703. They ſtill keep ſeparate books, though they have but one meeting-houſe.

IV. Taylors.

Whence it happens that this uſeful claſs of men ſhould have been, almoſt in all ages, the butt of the ſhafts of ridicule, is not eaſy to account for; as, next to food, cloaths are a chief neceſſary in human life. And yet we find the immortal Shakſpeare, nay, even the

the mighty queen Beſs, employing their ſatirical wit upon "the knights of the thimble." Poſſibly their domeſticated ſituation in life gives them a kind of aſſuming petulance, nearly aſſociated to that of the fair ſex, which may excite a degree of contempt from the more manly and robuſt buſineſſes of life.

This ſociety meet in their hall in the Black-Friars. The oldeſt record of this fraternity is dated 1536.—Every brother, upon his ſetting up ſhop, ſhould pay a pot of oil to the fellowſhip, as alſo thirteenpence a year, for our Lady-light; and that each apprentice, or perſon hired by the week, ſhould pay fourpence per annum, and each hireling threepence a year, to their play, when it ſhould be performed: Alſo, that any perſon born a ſubject of the king, and free of Newcaſtle, might ſet up ſhop, on payment of forty pounds, with a pound of wax and a pot of oil, at his admittance; as alſo thirteenpence to our Lady-light, and 8d. to the play. That no taylor ſhould work on Saturdays after eight o'clock in the evening, and ſhould keep holy the Sunday, vigils, and feſtival days, on pain of ſix pounds of wax, for every default. That the ſociety ſhould paſs their accounts on St. John's day, in every May; and having choſen twelve electors, the ſaid twelve ſhould chooſe the four ſtewards, the ſearchers, and auditors. It further ordered, that every brother ſhould be at the proceſſion on Corpus Chriſti day, before it paſſed the New-gate, on pain of forfeiting a pound of wax; and that each brother ſhould attend in his livery. And that the common light of the fraternity ſhould go before the corpſe of every brother when it was carried to the church for interment, and continue there lighted during maſs-time, and till the body was interred.

This

In the archives of the ſociety is another ordinary, dated Auguſt 12, 1624, confirmed March 2, 1679; alſo September 15, 1707; January 17, 1731; and October 17, 1737.

This body of mechanics, both free and non-free, is very numerous in Newcaſtle.

V. Sadlers.

The records of this ſociety are very ancient, being dated March 6, 1459, which they ſtill have in their poſſeſſion. In thoſe popiſh times, the ſadlers were enjoined to walk together in proceſſion, in a livery, at the feaſt of Corpus Chriſti, and perform their play, at their own coſt: and that each brother, when his hour was aſſigned, to attend, under pain of forty-pence. That no Scotſman born ſhould be taken apprentice, or ſuffered to work within the town, under a penalty of twenty ſhillings. It farther ordered, that no apprentice ſhould be taken under the term of ſeven years, on pain of ſix ſhillings and eightpence. It enjoined civil behaviour to each other, at their meetings, the due obſervance of holidays, &c.

Another ordinary, or record of the ſociety, comes down to the year 1532.

VI. Merchants of Corn, or Boothmen.

No determinate record is handed down of this ſociety, conſidered as a ſeparate myſtery. But among ſome looſe hints, preſerved in the books of the merchant adventurers, there is one, however, dated in the year 1566, myſterious and of *dark import*, and which gives ſcope for the talents of the curious and inquiſitive. It is called, "the ſcyens of boothmen."

To

To which of all the branches of *ſcience* this of *dealing in corn* belongs, we candidly confeſs our ignorance.

We are far from inſinuating, that importation of corn in caſes of *real ſcarcity*, and publicly ſold at a reaſonable profit, is not laudable; but its augmenting almoſt daily in price, notwithſtanding the immenſe quantities imported from the four quarters of the globe, "was ſtrange, it was paſſing ſtrange."

VII. Bakers *and* Brewers.

Theſe employments, exerciſed as myſteries in Newcaſtle, are of very ancient inſtitution. Nor is it ſurpriſing.---To eat and drink are the calls of nature, co-eval with human exiſtence. Anno 1342 the corporation in full guild, held in St Mary's Hoſpital, agreed and enacted, that the aſſizes of bread and bear ſhould be held according to law. The maſter-bakers, and not their ſervants, to ſuffer the penalties ordained by the ſtatutes. Theſe regulations were ſanctioned by royal authority. Meaſures, ells, and weights, to be proved twice a year, or at leaſt once.

In the following century, 1446, we find an excluſive privilege granted to the bakers and brewers of Newcaſtle, whereby baking and brewing for ſale were reſtricted to that town, and no where elſe within the port of Tyne.

In the year 1661 we find a record of this ſociety ſetting forth, that their original ordinary, or record, had been long loſt; and in this they enact regulations for chooſing twelve of their ſociety and four wardens, whom they empowered by the name of wardens of the art and myſtery of bakers and brewers, to proſecute, ſue, or implead, and be ſued, &c. only within

the courts of Newcaſtle upon Tyne; to make laws for the government of the ſociety, impoſe fines, forbidding any brother to ſtrike another at any meeting with fiſt, hand, elbow, dagger, ſtaff, ſtick, rod, or otherwiſe, on pain of twenty ſhillings. Ordering, that no apprentice ſhould be taken under ſeven years, nor a ſecond till the firſt had ſerved ſix years. That the ſociety ſhould attend the burials of their brethren, on pain of a penalty of three ſhillings and fourpence for every omiſſion.

VIII. Tanners.

Tanners were anciently called barkers. Their ordinary is dated in the year 1532. They were enjoined by their regulations to come yearly, in their beſt array and apparel, at the feaſt of Corpus Chriſti, and go in proceſſion, ſet forth their pageants, &c. on paiſt of forfeiting one pound of wax. Not to take any *Scot by birth* for an apprentice, under a penalty of twenty ſhillings. That each brother ſhould have but one butcher to buy ſlaughter of, on pain of ten pounds, and not to buy above eight fothers of bark, or forty trees, on pain of ſix ſhillings and eightpence. Alſo to ſupply each other with bark.

IX. Cordwainers.

The original inſtitution of this myſtery is dated Dec. 17, 1556. Their meeting-houſe was in the Black-Friars. Their regulations reſpecting apprentices is, that no brother ſhall take an apprentice for a term leſs than ten years; five of which to be expired before a ſecond be taken. That foreigners might be admitted into the company on payment of five

five pounds; one half whereof to go to the fellowſhip, the other to the reparation of Tyne-Bridge.

From the original in poſſeſſion of the company.

X. Butchers.

Anno 1621, this ſociety was aſſociated into a myſtery or trade, as we find by an inrolment in the archives of the corporation of Newcaſtle. Annually on Aſh-Wedneſday they were to chooſe their two wardens. That apprentices ſhould ſerve at leaſt eight years, five of which to expire before a ſecond could be taken. That no brother ſhould be partner with any foreigners called *crokers*, on pain of forfeiting five pounds. That none ſhould kill after nine o'clock on Saturday night, nor keep open ſhop after eight o'clock on Sunday morning. That no brother ſhould buy, or ſeek any licence to kill fleſh in Newcaſtle during Lent, without the general conſent of the fellowſhip, on pain of forfeiting five pounds. That none ſhould kill either at Lent or any other time, within the liberties of the High Caſtle, being in the county of Northumberland, on the like pain for each offence. But that any butcher, though not a brother, might expoſe good meat to ſale in the market, from the hours of eight in the morning till four in the afternoon. There is a curious order or regulation among "theſe men of death:" it is, that no free brother ſhould blow a calf's pluck, or any part of a calf, except calf's cloſe-ear, nor any other goods but a cow's udder, under a penalty of ſix ſhillings and eightpence, unforgiven.

XI.

XI. Smiths.

There are ſome curious regulations reſpecting the religious deportment of theſe men of the hammer.—Their ordinary, or record of aſſociation, is to be found in the book of enrolments in the archives of the corporation of Newcaſtle; and they themſelves have preſerved the original deed in the ſtrong box of the ſociety, bearing date anno 1436. This brotherhood were enjoined to go together in proceſſion on the feaſt of Corpus Chriſti, and perform their play, at their own expence, attending at the hour appointed, or forfeit one pound of wax. That every brother ſhould aſſemble at St. Nicholas' church, at the ſetting forth of the proceſſion, on St. Loy-day, on the like penalty. That no Scotſman born ſhould be taken apprentice, or ſuffered to work, on pain of the forfeiture of forty ſhillings; half whereof to go to the chamber of the town, the other half to the fellowſhip. That no brother ſhould ſell *ſeyme and roffe* by weight, under three ſhillings and fourpence a hundred, on pain of forfeiting ſix ſhillings and eightpence for each offence *

Another regulation exhibits the ſociety as conſiſting of different branches of blackſmiths and farriers, blackſmiths or anchorſmiths, and lockſmiths or whiteſmiths.

Another, dated Auguſt 17, 1677, empowered the fraternity to be a body politic in law; enjoined them to meet yearly, on St. Loy-day, to chooſe four wardens,

* The following curious entries occur in their old books:—Feb. 10, 1668, John Bolam for not carrying Clem. Browne to church, giving the ſtang to another, fined 13s. 4d.—1682, paid for making the ſeat in the Frith, 1s. 4d.—1685, ſpent in the Forth-houſe with the twelve, the raine cauſeing them in, 2s.

dens, of which one at leaſt was to be an anchor-ſmith. That the twelve of the company ſhould conſiſt of four anchorſmiths, four blackſmiths and farriers, and four lockſmiths: to chooſe four ſearchers; that apprentices ſhould ſerve ſeven years: that no brother ſhould come to meetings, or attend the public guild of the town, with his apron on, but with a decent cloak or coat, on pain of forfeiting ſixpence for each default.

George Whinfield, eſq. mayor, and Margaret Stephenſon, of Newcaſtle, left twenty pounds each, dated Dec. 18, 1718. and 1725; to be put to intereſt, to aſſiſt two poor brethren, for three years, to begin buſineſs.

Their meeting-houſe is adjacent to the Black-Friars, the ground-floor of which, once that of the chapel of that opulent fraternity, was the ſcene of a remarkable ſtate-tranſaction, being the room in which homage was done by the Scottiſh king, to the king of England, for the kingdom of Scotland.

XII. Fullers or Dyers.

To invent the manufacture of cloth was the fruit of neceſſity; to purify and ſtain with various colours, were the offspring of vanity and a love of diſtinction. Joſeph's coat of many colours, with his magnificent portentous dreams, nigh coſt him his life. And as a deſire of *monſtrari digito*, to be pointed out by the finger, has long influenced human-kind, we are not to wonder that the myſtery of fulling and dyeing is of very ancient date. This of Newcaſtle is that of 1477. As there have been ſome men but *middling honeſt*, in all ages, ſo the regulations of the fuller's company ſecure the brethren againſt them. It is therefore enacted, that no brother ſhould ſtain cloth upon

upon the tenter, to deliver it with the *ſhort-wand*, on pain of forfeiting four pounds of wax: nor tenter cloth on a Sunday, nor "wend to the walk mylne" with any raw cloth on that day, on pain of forfeiting two pounds of wax. That they ſhould take no Scotſman born to apprentice, nor ſet any ſuch to work, under a penalty of twenty ſhillings, half whereof to go to the ſociety, and half to ſupport the Tyne-bridge. That no apprentice ſhould be taken under ſeven years; that no brother ſhould work kerſey under twopence the yard; that they ſhould attend the weddings and burials of brethren in their livery; that they ſhould meet in their livery in Carliol-croft, on St. John's day, in May, at ſix o'clock in the morning; and upon St. John's-day at Chriſtmas, at one o'clock in the afternoon: that none of the company ſhould fail being at the ſetting forth of the proceſſion of Corpus Chriſti day, on pain of forfeiting one pound of wax; and that each brother ſhould pay ſixpence to the proceſſion and the play yearly: to chooſe twelve, who were to be ſworn and elect wardens, auditors, ſearchers, and the two to attend the mayor and chamber for the year: to meet on the eve of Corpus Chriſti day, in the morning, at ſix o'clock, under the penalty of one pound of wax: to walk no broad cloth of colour, under fourpence a yard; nor any wadded blue under twopence the yard, nor any frize under three-halfpence the yard; to "dight," *i. e.* clean no gown under fourpence, on pain of half a pound of wax; nor to ſheer a dozen yards of tilted cloth under threepence, on pain of forfeiting two pounds of wax; or fuſtian under one penny a yard, or broad-cloth under threepence for the like quantity, under the penalty of one pound of wax for each.

FIFTEEN

FIFTEEN COMPANIES, *called* By-trades.

The firſt of theſe is the reſpectable and opulent company of Maſters and Mariners, called alſo the Trinity-Houſe, of which we have already given an account along with thoſe of the Merchant-adventurers and Hoaſtmen.

2. *Weavers.*

This very ingenious profeſſion is of great antiquity among civilized nations, and is almoſt co-eval with human nature itſelf; and in proportion as it arrives among a people from rudeneſs to elegance in texture, in the various fabrications in which this art is exerciſed, the degree of their civilization is, in a great meaſure, characteriſed.

The ordinary of this ſociety in Newcaſtle, and which they ſtill have in their poſſeſſion, is of the date of 1527. By the authority of the mayor, ſheriff, and aldermen, juſtices of the peace, with the conſent of their own body, it enjoins them to aſſemble yearly at the feaſt of Corpus Chriſti, go together in proceſſion, and play their play of pageant of "The Bearing of the Croſs," at their own expence; each brother to be at the proceſſion when his hour is aſſigned, on pain of forfeiting ſixpence. To take no Scotſman born to apprentice, nor ſet any to work under a penalty of forty ſhillings for each default, whereof half to go to the fellowſhip, and half to the work of Tyne-bridge, without forgiveneſs; to admit any perſon who had ſerved an apprenticeſhip with a brother of the ſociety, a member thereof, on the payment of thirteen ſhillings and fourpence, and twelvepence for a pot of ale; as alſo any man of that craft, being the

the king's liege man, and desirous to be of the fellowship, a brother thereof, with power to set up shop on the payment of twenty pounds, and twelvepence for a pot of ale. The searchers to search four times a year at least. That any brother falling into poverty should be supplied out of the common box, at the discretion of the stewards and twelve; and that any brother misbehaving at meetings, should forfeit six pounds of wax for every default; and that any brother lying in wait to beat, slay or murder any of his brethren, should be put out of the society for ever; that any brother calling another *Scot*, or *mish-sworn*, in malice, should forfeit six shillings and eightpence without forgiveness: that every apprentice should serve seven years, and pay at his entrance a pound of wax; that they should settle their accounts every year, on Monday after Corpus Christi day, and choose their stewards, &c. that every brother take for the working of a dozen broad cloth four shillings; for a dozen strates wollene twentypence, to be measured by the long wand; for a dozen lyn-cloth, yard broad, bleeched, twelvepence; also file and brood-lynn and hardone, tenpence a dozen; a dozen fan-clothe twelvepence; a dozen karsais eighteenpence; for a dozen lyn-cloth, five quarters broad, eighteenpence, &c.

Another ordinary, having the sanction of the mayor and burgesses of Newcastle, in guild-hall assembled, dated Auguſt 12, 1608, and enrolled in the books of the corporation, confirmed to them that no foreigner or person not free of the fellowship, living in or about the High-Castle, near the liberties of that town, should take any work in prejudice of this society, on pain of forfeiting five pounds for each default. And that none

none ſhould buy any linen or hardane yarn, to carry out of the precincts of the ſaid town, under a penalty of forty ſhillings.

This ſociety has a warrant from the mayor of Newcaſtle, renewed yearly, to ſeize bad yarn, &c. and ſtill continue to receive annual contributions from the pedlars who keep booths on the Sandhill.

3. *Barber-Chirurgeons, with Chandlers.*

This company is of great antiquity, their ordinary being dated October 10, 1442.

On a petition from this ſociety, dated 1648, to the mayor and corporation, for a place in the Manors, on which to build a meeting-houſe, a leaſe was granted them for that purpoſe, for ſixty-one years, at the annual rent of ſix ſhillings and eightpence; with a certain number of yards of land, for a garden of herbs. This leaſe expiring, a new one was granted, for the like term of ſixty-one years from the expiration of the old one.

Their regulations, which are curious and moral, are as follow: That, at the proceſſion of Corpus Chriſti, their ſociety was to play the "Baptizing of Chriſt," at their own expence. Every man to be at the proceſſion when his hour is aſſigned him, at the New-gate, on pain of forfeiting a pound of wax: to go alſo with their pageant, when it ſhould be played, in a livery, on the like pain: that no alien born ſhould be taken apprentice, or allowed to work within the town, or without, under a penalty of twenty ſhillings: that the ſociety ſhould uphold the light of St. John Baptiſt, in St. Nicholas' church, as long as they were of ability: that no barber, apprentice, nor ſervant,

ſhould ſhave on Sunday, neither within the town, nor without, by a mile's ſpace.

There is another ordinary of this ſociety, dated Sept. 25, 1671, confirming the former, and making them a body politic, by the name of "The Barber-Chirurgeons and Wax and Tallow-Chandlers," ordering them to meet yearly, and chooſe two wardens, who were to be ſworn: that apprentices ſhould ſerve ſeven years: and that when any brother had taken a cure in hand, no other ſhould meddle with it till it was completed, on pain of forfeiting twenty ſhillings for the firſt, thirty ſhillings for the ſecond, and forty ſhillings for the third default; half of which to go to the brother who firſt dreſſed the patient. It further enjoined, that none ſhould waſh, dreſs, or trim on a Sunday, on pain of forfeiting two ſhillings for each offence; giving the company power to make by-laws, and to chooſe annually two ſearchers, who were to be ſworn.*

4. *Cutlers.*

Although no ordinary or record of this company has been preſerved; yet ſome mention is made of them as a ſociety, anno 1579, in the ordinary of armourers. In the year 1688, they appear to have pretented to the election of the mayor, as one of the fifteen by-trades.

Their hall, anciently called "Cutler's Tower," in the Carliol-Croft, was rebuilt by the fraternity of maſons, and is now their meeting-houſe.

5. *Ship-*

* Extracts from their old books.——Dec. 11, 1711, it was ordered, by a full vote of the company, that "perriwig-making be from thenceforth accounted as a part and branch of the company."—June 14, 1742, ordered, "that no brother ſhave John Robſon, till he pays what he owes to Robert Shafto."

5. *Shipwrights, or Ship-Carpenters.*

This art, ſo uſeful for navigation, and for conveying the productions of every clime over the whole world, and which has arrived at ſuch perfection in Britain, is not of very ancient date in Newcaſtle, as the ordinary of this ſociety is only of Auguſt 8, 1638. The deed being peruſed by the judges of aſſize the day following, they certified their having done ſo and ratified the ſame. The ſociety are enjoined to meet yearly on the 27th day of December, to chooſe two wardens, and the like number of overſeers; prohibiting them from working on Sundays and holidays obſerved by the church, giving them power to make by-laws, and reſtricting apprentices from working tide-work, till they had ſerved three years.

Another order of this ſociety, dated Auguſt 26th, 1674, was alſo confirmed by the judges; as was alſo another, dated July 26th, 1689. Beſides the above, this fraternity have ſince made many additional orders, by their own authority.†

† In their old books are the following curious entries:—1613, Robart Harrigad, for a carvell, 1s.—William Keiſley, for working on a ketch on a holiday, 7d.—Of two for working on a *ſlebate*, on a holiday, 7d.—1624, received for a pott "fower heates on a keele, 21d."—1651, About this time the company appear to have had ways at the Cloſe-gate, where large ſhips were built.

Their meeting-houſe occurs 1622.—27 December, 1622, pd. for bretedging the towre 24s. 2d.—1630, mention occurs of Skis-Thurſday being our Lady-day in Lent.—1656, mention occurs of new ways about St. Lawrence, for building ſhips.

June 24th, 1673, a brother fined for challenging another to fight, and giving him his glove.—Ten brethren fined for working on January 30th, 1651, being a thankſgivinge-daye.—December 27th, 1672, a brother fined for telling one of the twelve "he turned his cloake on the other ſhoulder."

They have their meeting-houſe in Carpenter's-Tower, Sallyport-gate, which is the moſt beautiful of all the other meeting-houſes on the town-walls.

6. *Coopers.*

This very ancient ſociety has an ordinary, dated January 22, 1426. They were enjoined to go together yearly, at the feaſt of Corpus Chriſti, in proceſſion, as other crafts did, and perform their play, at their own charge; each brother to attend at the hour aſſigned him at the proceſſion, or forfeit a pound of wax; that none ſhould take a Scotſman born to apprentice, nor ſet any ſuch to work, under the penalty of forty ſhillings, whereof twenty-ſix ſhillings and eightpence to go to the fraternity, and thirteen ſhillings and fourpence to "Sente Nicholas kyrkwarke." No brother to take any more than one apprentice in ſeven years. All turners and pulley-makers coming to Newcaſtle to be bound by the ſame ordinary.

An after clauſe forbade the employing of any Dutchman; and, by another after clauſe, the company of ropers were united with this ſociety.

By an ordinance of the corporation of Newcaſtle (17th of Elizabeth) which conſolidates the companies of coopers, pulley-makers, turners, and rope-makers, it is ordained, "That none of theſe companies ſhall take any apprentice but one in four years, except the children of brethren;" and by a by-law of this conſolidated company in the year 1786, it was enacted, "that for the enrolment of every apprentice ſo taken, a brother ſhall pay ten pounds, or any apprentice at all during the ſervitude of another, five pounds. But by a mandamus (Coates *v.* the Cooper's Company in 1797) it was fully determined,

mined " that corporations have no right to make by-laws in reſtraint of trade, and that a prohibition not to take more than a certain number of apprentices *is a by-law in reſtraint of trade.**

January

* The learned judges preſent delivered their opinions reſpectively on this important caſe as follow:

LORD KENYON, Chief Juſtice —I believe that this writ is drawn in the uſual form, and I ſee no objection to it. If the defendants ſhould have returned any reaſon to ſhew that this party is not intitled to have indentures enrolled, they ſhould have ſhewn it. But this return is bad from the beginning to the end. To one objection the defendant's counſel has not even attempted to give any anſwer, namely, that it is not alledged that the apprentice was not the ſon of a freeman. Theſe two companies have exiſted immemorially, but how they could be conſolidated together I cannot conjecture. However, as they have aſſumed that character, we are to take it as againſt themſelves that they are conſolidated. There is a caſe in Salkeld where it is ſaid, that a corporation may make a fraternity, but no notice is taken of that point in the other reports of that caſe; and I cannot conceive that they have ſuch a power; it can only be effected by the legiſlature or by the crown. Here, however, it is ſufficient to ſay, that theſe defendants have aſſumed that character, and are now bound by it. But when the corporation of Newcaſtle choſe to conſolidate theſe two companies, they certainly had no right to ſuperadd by-laws in reſtraint of trade; and a prohibition not to take more than a certain number of apprentices is a by-law in reſtraint of trade. By-laws have been ſeveral times brought to me as chief juſtice for confirmation under the ſtatutes, and not long ago I refuſed to allow ſome, becauſe I thought them illegal in reſtraining makers from taking beyond a certain number of apprentices. On the act of parliament alſo I think the laſt by-law is void. That ſtatute ſays that only a ſmall ſum (2s. 6d.) ſhall be taken for the enrolment of indentures of apprenticeſhip, whereas the defendants inſiſt, that under this by-law 10l. ſhall be taken for it. But even if the company had a right to demand that ſum of the maſter, that is no reaſon why the indentures ſhould not be enrolled. If they think they can ſupport this by-law, they may ſtill bring their action againſt the maſter to recover the penalty. But I am clearly

January 30, 1650. the corporation ordered them a leaſe for ſeven years of a place in the Manors, to be a meeting-houſe. The company of plaiſterers appear to have met with this ſociety ſoon after the reſtoration.

A warrant was granted to this ſociety in the year 1699 by the mayor of Newcaſtle, to ſearch all herring, &c. a power which is ſtill continued in their hands.

In

ly of opinion that this return cannot be ſupported, and that a peremptory mandamus ought to go.

ASHURST, Judge.—Even if theſe companies were properly conſtituted, and had a power to make by-laws, which queſtions it is unneceſſary to diſcuſs in this caſe, the by-laws are already bad, as being made in reſtraint of trade.

GROSE, Judge.—This mandamus is drawn in the uſual form. The defendants do not controvert any of the facts ſtated in the writ, but they rely on certain pretended by-laws. Now without enquiring whether one corporation can make another, or whether theſe by-laws are good, it is clear that this apprentice is not brought within the laſt of them, that ſays that every brother for each apprentice he ſhould take ſhould pay 10l. &c. the meaning of which evidently is, that the brother ſhall pay that ſum; but this is not an application by a brother but by an apprentice; but the by-law does not ſay that the indentures of apprenticeſhip ſhall not be enrolled unleſs the money is paid. Therefore on this ſhort ground I am of opinion that the return is bad.

LAWRENCE, Judge.—I alſo think that this writ is in the uſual form. As to the argument of the defendants, that the party applying to be admitted into this company ought not to be permitted to make the firſt objection to the return, becauſe it is contrary to the conſtitution of the corporation, that conſequence by no means follows; for even though the corporation of Newcaſtle could make an ordinance for the purpoſe of uniting theſe two companies, it does not follow that they could make a by-law in reſtraint of trade; that ordinance might be good, though the reſt were bad.——*Return quaſhed.*

In the year 1725, Mrs Margaret Stephenſon left a legacy of twenty pounds to this ſociety, to be divided, and let out to two brethren for a certain number of years without intereſt.

7. *Houſe-Carpenters, anciently called Wrights.*

This ſociety, by an ordinary dated July 3, 1579, including joiners, was conſtituted a body corporate of themſelves, with perpetual ſucceſſion, to ſue and be ſued, &c. in the courts of Newcaſtle; that they ſhould meet yearly and chooſe their wardens, &c. alſo to obſerve the plays which anciently belonged to their fellowſhip: that no apprentice ſhould ſerve leſs than ſeven years; no Scotſman to be taken as ſuch under a penalty of forty ſhillings, nor to be made free on any account. It further enacts, that the joiners ſhould work at the ſealing of houſes within, the making "dorments and windows, drawn tables of frame-work, and tables with turnpoſts, buffet-ſtools, forms, cupboards, almeries, preſſers, chairs, and ſconces of frame-work, caſements, trelliſing of windows, buttries of framed work, framed cheſts, and all others pinned with wood, as alſo every other kind of joiner's work." That the two trades ſhould occupy in common the making of buttries, or any other kind of work with "ſealing linck, *i. e.* one board growen in another, and nailed with iron nails; cheſts for corpſes, and other cheſts not pinned with wood; removing of beds, cupboards, and draw-tables, together with making of doors and windows mulder work." And that half of their fines ſhould go to the maintenance of the great bridge, and the other half to the fellowſhip.

Their meeting-houſe was over the water-gate on the Sand-Hill, in which was a table of fir-wood, formed

formed of one plank, all of one piece, being 22 feet and a half long, and 22 and a half inches broad. Their preſent meeting-houſe is at the Weſtgate.

George Collingwood, houſe-carpenter, left two pounds for ever to put out an apprentice to one of the ſociety.

8. *Maſons.*

This truly reſpectable ſociety was conſtituted an incorporated body of themſelves, by an ordinary, dated September 1, 1581, enjoining them to meet yearly; to make by-laws, &c. to obſerve their play at the feſtival of Corpus Chriſti: that no Scotſman ſhould be taken apprentice; that apprentices ſhould ſerve ſeven years, &c. In 1674 this ſociety met in the White-Friar-Tower, with the wallers, or bricklayers and metters. They have their beautiful meeting-houſe in the Carliol-Croft.

On a monument in their meeting-houſe, erected in 1776: "To the memory of Mr. George Maxwell, maſon, who died September 14th, 1732, and bequeathed to the company of maſons of Newcaſtle, the rentals of meſſuages and their appurtenances, to be applied to the relief of ſuch brethren as are ſick, or incapable of working, and to ſuch of their widows as are needful."

9. *Glovers.*

The ordinary of this ſociety, dated January 20th, 1436, enjoined them to go together in proceſſion at the feaſt of Corpus Chriſti in a livery, and play at their own charge; to chooſe annually three ſtewards; that apprentices ſhould ſerve ſeven years, on pain of forfeiting ſix ſhillings and eightpence 'to the light of the ſaid craft;' that no Scotſman born ſhould be

be taken apprentice, nor allowed to work in the town, under a penalty of forty ſhillings.

10. *Joiners.*

In the ordinary which united the houſe-carpenters with the joiners into one fraternity, we found the date was anno 1579, but by a ſubſequent date of 1589 we find that the joiners were incorporated by themſelves into a diſtinct company, with perpetual ſucceſſion. It enjoined them to elect two wardens, make by-laws, perform their parts in the plays; that apprentices ſhould ſerve ſeven years; and that no Scotchman ſhould be taken apprentice.

Their meeting-houſe is over Pilgrim-ſtreet gate, in which is an eſcutcheon with the following inſcription: "Mrs. Margaret Stephenſon, relict of Mr. John Stephenſon, merchant of Newcaſtle, departed this life Auguſt 23d, 1629, and, by her laſt will and teſtament, gave to the company of joiners of Newcaſtle aforeſaid, twenty pounds, to be lent to two ſuch brethren of the ſaid fellowſhip, as ſhall want ſtock to ſet up with for four years without intereſt, and ſo to be transferred to other two ſuch brethren of the ſaid joiners at the end of every four years for ever."

On another we find "Barbara Farbridge, relict of Charles Farbridge, a brother of the company, died April 13th, 1743, aged 60, bequeathed to the poor widows of deceaſed brethren twenty pounds, the uſe of which to be paid by the ſtewards on St. Peter's day yearly for ever."

11. *Milners, or Millers.*

This ſociety was, by date of September 20, 1578, conſtituted a fellowſhip, conſiſting of twenty millers,

with perpetual ſucceſſion, and enjoined them to chooſe two wardens every year, who might ſue and be ſued, &c. and that when the general plays ſhould be performed, they ſhould play the ancient one of the ſociety, called "the Deliverance of the Children of Iſrael out of the Thraldom, Bondage, and Servitude of King Pharoh," on pain of forfeiting twenty ſhillings for abſence: that no ſtranger or alien born ſhould be taken apprentice, or ſet to work, on pain of ſix ſhillings and eightpence; and that apprentices ſhould ſerve ſeven years; that no corn ſhould be ground on Sundays; that each miller in the counties of Northumberland, or Durham, who brought corn from Newcaſtle market, ſhould pay them an acknowledgment of ſixpence per annum, and two ſhillings and ſixpence every time he ſhould be found in the wheat or malt market before two o'clock in the afternoon on market days, unleſs to fetch away the corn which his cuſtomers had bought there; and that no ſuch foreign millers ſhould buy corn there, under a penalty of two ſhillings and ſixpence for each default.

April 8th, 1672, a ſingular order occurs in the books of this fraternity, "that if any brother ſhould attend the burial of another with a black hat, he ſhould be fined ſixpence for every ſuch default."

12. *Curriers, Feltmakers, and Armourers.*

The aſſociation of theſe three branches of buſineſs, was conſtituted by an ordinary dated September 20, 1546. They were enjoined to go together in proceſſion at the feaſt of Corpus Chriſti, bear the charges of the lights, pageants, and play, and be there at the hour aſſigned them, on pain of forfeiting a pound of wax.

wax. It further enjoined that none born out of the king's dominion ſhould work with them, unleſs he were denizen, or for urgent cauſes to be admitted by the mayor and juſtices of peace, on pain of paying forty pounds ſterling; that they ſhould not work on holidays, or on Saturdays longer than five o'clock of the afternoon, on pain of forfeiting a pound of wax; that each brother ſhould be ſworn on admiſſion; and that the armourers, curriers, and hatters, ſhould not interfere in each other's occupations.

A. D. 1719, this ſociety made a ſingular and very ridiculous order, "that no quaker ſhould be taken apprentice, on pain of forfeiting one hundred pounds."

13. *Colliers, Paviors, and Carriage-men.*

The ordinary of this united fraternity dated July 30, 1656, appears to have been a mutual agreement ſigned and ſealed by themſelves, to remain in force till they ſhould obtain one under the authority of the magiſtrates of Newcaſtle. It ordered that no ſtranger, not having duly ſerved an apprenticeſhip to their calling, ſhould be ſet to work, on pain of forfeiting the ſum of forty ſhillings; that any brother working a day's work privately, ſhould forfeit ſix ſhillings and eightpence for each default; and that they ſhould chooſe a warden yearly, on the feaſt of St. Mark, who ſhould keep the books of the fraternity, and do all other offices belonging to a ſteward, as in other companies.

14. *Slaters.*

The records of this ſociety inform us that their ancient ordinary was dated March 12, 1451. By this they were enjoined to go together in a livery, yearly,

at the feaſt of Corpus Chriſti, and play their parts at their own expence; that no apprentice ſhould ſerve leſs than ſeven years, nor a ſecond to be taken till the firſt had ſerved ſix; that no brother ſhould take a Scotſman apprentice: that if any brother had taken a ſlate quarry, or any places to cover with ſlates, none ſhould undermine him, under a penalty of thirteen ſhillings and fourpence; that none ſhould work upon St. Catherine's day, on pain of forfeiting a pound of wax. An order was added December 28, 1460, that no brother ſhould take leſs than ſix ſhillings and eightpence, for handling a rood of ſlate coverings.

Another ordinary, dated September 28, 1579, cited an agreement between the ſlaters and bricklayers, and incorporated the ſocieties with perpetual ſucceſſion, enjoined them to chooſe two wardens annually, who might ſue and be ſued, make by-laws, &c. that at the general Corpus Chriſti plays, they ſhould perform "the Offering of Iſaac by Abraham:" that they ſhould make ovens, chimney-tops, funnels, and all works of tile or brick, which was claimed by the wallers, to whom they were to pay an annual acknowledgment of three ſhillings and fourpence. It further ordered, that the ſlaters ſhould do no kind of work with black mortar or clay, on pain of ten ſhillings for each default. By mutual agreement, the annual acknowledgment of three ſhillings and fourpence was afterwards given up February 23, 1597.

Another ordinary of this ſociety, dated March 16, 1677, ſeparated them from the company of wallers, bricklayers, and dawbers, alias plaiſterers; and made them in deed and name a fellowſhip, by the name of ſlaters and tilers; ordering them to meet yearly on St.

St. Catherine's day, and chooſe two wardens, who might ſue and be ſued, &c. to pay to the wallers three ſhillings and fourpence yearly on St. Catherine's day; to work no kind of black mortar or clay, but to make ovens and chimneys, or funnels.

November 11, 1654, this fraternity agreed to meet with the coopers in the Manors; they aſſemble with them at preſent on the Sand-hill.

15. *Glaziers, Plumbers, Pewterers, & Painters.*

By the firſt ordinary anno 1536, goldſmiths were incorporated with the glaziers, &c. as above. The goldſmiths were ſeparated from them anno 1717. Their ordinary required them to go together on the feaſt of Corpus Chriſti, and maintain their play of "the three Kings of Coleyn;" to have four wardens, one goldſmith, one plumber, one glazier, and one pewterer or painter; to be ſworn on admiſſion; not to interfere with each other's occupations: that no Scotſman born ſhould be taken apprentice, or ſuffered to work in Newcaſtle.

They had their hall in Morden-Tower granted them in the mayoralty of Sir Peter Riddell, anno 1619.

Among other regulations it was enacted that none of the fellowſhip ſhould lend his diamond, except to a free-brother, a glazier, on pain of forfeiting ſix ſhillings and eightpence.

OTHER COMPANIES NOT OF THE FIFTEEN BY-TRADES.

We ſhall only notice the moſt material circumſtances reſpecting theſe.

Goldſmiths.

Goldſmiths.

They were formerly incorporated anno 1536 by an ordinary with the glaziers, &c. as mentioned before. They were ſeparated from them anno 1717. At ſo remote a period as A. D. 1249, the reigning king Henry III commanded the bailiffs and good men of Newcaſtle to chooſe four of the moſt prudent and truſty men of their town for the office of moneyers there; and other four like perſons for keeping the king's mints in that town; alſo two fit and prudent goldſmiths to be aſſayers of the money to be made there.

An aſſay maſter was appointed to this ſociety in the year 1702, which office is now held by Mr. Robert Pinkney.

Waits, or Muſicians.

This ſociety ſeems, by quotations from their original charter, which is loſt, to have been in greater reputation, than in more modern times. The exiſting ordinary, dated September 18, 1677, appointed them a fellowſhip with perpetual ſucceſſion; that none ſhould teach muſic without licence from the mayor; that no ſtranger ſhould be ſuffered to play at weddings or feaſts, unleſs allowed by the mayor, under a penalty of ſix ſhillings and eightpence; that no fiddler, piper, dancer upon ropes, or others that pretended to ſkill in muſic, or that went about with "motions or ſhowes," ſhould practiſe in Newcaſtle, without licence from the mayor, on pain of forfeiting ten ſhillings; that at marriages where muſic ſhould be choſen, the waits ſhould be preferred; and if any other muſicians, who had the mayor's

or's licence, were called, their fee ſhould not exceed three ſhillings and fourpence, under a penalty of ten ſhillings.

In 1646 the waits were commanded, by an order of common-council, to go about morning and evening, according to an ancient cuſtom; and again, in 1675, they were enjoined to go about the town in the winter ſeaſon; but the corporation having, a few years ago, diſcontinued their ſalaries, this ſilly practice has in conſequence been given up.

Scriveners.

The ordinary of this ſociety, dated Sept. 13, 1675, appointed eight ſcriveners a fellowſhip; that apprentices ſhould ſerve ſeven years, and that all the brotherhood ſhould dwell in the town of Newcaſtle.

Bricklayers.

This uſeful ſociety is very numerous in Newcaſtle. They were, by their ordinary dated Jan. 19, 1660, called "wallers, bricklayers, and dawbers, alias plaiſterers," and conſtituted a fellowſhip with perpetual ſucceſſion, meeting on the 24th of February, and chooſing ſtewards, &c. that they ſhould not be moleſted by the company of maſons or ſlaters; that no foreigner ſhould work in the town, under penalty of ſix ſhillings and eightpence; that none ſhould employ an alien born under the like penalty; that apprentices ſhould ſerve ſeven years, and that no ſecond ſhould be taken till the firſt had ſerved three.

An order was made by the corporation in 1691, that the ſlaters and tilers ſhould not exerciſe the trade of bricklaying or plaiſtering, otherwiſe than in making and mending of chimney-tops above the ſlates, and plaiſtering them. Their hall is in Nevil-Tower, which was fitted up for their public meetings in 1711.

Rope-

Rope-makers.

This ſociety's ordinary, bearing date April 14, 1648, (citing one of more ancient date) made them a fellowſhip with perpetual ſucceſſion, to meet on the 6th of June every year, and chooſe wardens, &c. it ordered that they ſhould not be moleſted by the company of coopers, pulley-makers, and turners; that no brother ſhould ſet an alien to work, under a penalty of forty ſhillings; that they ſhould take apprentices only once in four years, but put their own children to the buſineſs at their pleaſure; and further enjoined that they ſhould not impoſe upon the public by exceſſive prices. Their hall is a tower near the bottom of Carliol-Croft.

Upholſterers, Tin-plate Workers and Stationers.

The ordinary of this ſociety, dated July 22, 1675, conſtituted ſix upholſterers, three tin-plate workers, and two ſtationers, a fellowſhip, with perpetual ſucceſſion, and ordered them to meet annually on the 25th day of July, and chooſe four ſtewards, two upholſterers, and one of each of the other branches, who with the ſociety ſhould have power to make by-laws, &c. that apprentices ſhould ſerve ſeven years, and no ſecond be taken till the firſt had ſerved three; that they ſhould not interfere with each other's callings, and that no perſon not free of the town and this ſociety ſhould exerciſe their trade in Newcaſtle. The meeting-houſe of this fraternity is an apartment of the town-court.

Sail-makers.

The ordinary of this ſociety, dated Dec. 18, 1663, conſtituted five perſons of the occupation a fellowſhip,

ſhip, with perpetual ſucceſſion; enjoined them to meet yearly on the 10th of Auguſt, to appoint two wardens, to have power to make by-laws, &c. that apprentices ſhould ſerve ſeven years; and that none but thoſe who were free of the town and this fellowſhip ſhould exerciſe their trade. They had their meeting-houſe at the Cloſe-gate.

Metters.

After Newcaſtle became a large commercial town, and importations of grain, fruits, &c. were progreſſively encreaſing, the municipal duties impoſed by the corporation needed the regulating hand of the legiſlature. Accordingly we find, by an ordinary dated Auguſt 3, 1611, this ſociety enjoined to meet on the 20th day of September in every year, and chooſe four wardens, who were to paſs accounts, and make an equal diviſion of their money on the day following. There was a card or table of rates and duties of the ſame date.

Upon the alteration of meaſures, another ordinary was granted to this ſociety, Oct. 18, 1670. And in the year 1726 a new card or table of rates and duties was appointed by an act of common-council.

Their claims however were diſputed about four years ago by the non-freemen, and an aſſize trial was the conſequence. The metters, by the inconſiſtency of one of their evidences, were nonſuited. At a ſubſequent appeal to the law, the metters attempted to ſubſtantiate their privileges, by alledging that none but ſuch as belonged to their ſociety, (being forty in number) or were duly authoriſed by them, had a right to meaſure out imported grain, &c. Both parties however, by their counſel, compromiſed the matter before it came to a final deciſion.

Porters.

The ordinary of this ſociety is dated in the year 1528. The common-council, in 1648, made an order to revoke their ordinary for refuſing to go down and lend their aſſiſtance on the revolt of Tynmouth Caſtle.

A ſecond ordinary was granted to this fraternity in the year 1667, which conſtituted them a body politic, ſixteen in number, (vacancies in which, by death or removal, were to be filled up by the mayor of Newcaſtle) and ordered them to meet on Michaelmas-day, and chooſe two ſtewards, with power to make by-laws, ſue, &c. in the courts of Newcaſtle; accompanied with a table of wages.

In the year 1670 another ordinary was granted to this ſociety; and in 1704 a new table of wages was appointed them by the common-council.

Companies Extinct.

As theſe, ſuch as cooks, ſpicers, furbiſhers, &c. &c. which in former times ſeem to have been very numerous, do not now exiſt, and as ourlimits confine us to matters of much greater conſequence, we will not trouble our readers with an enumeration of them.

Free Cuſtoms of the Corporation of Newcaſtle.

As theſe are of very great importance to be known by almoſt every claſs of the inhabitants in this commercial town, we ſhall here give a ſuccinct, yet clear, repreſentation of them.

All the ſons of a free burgeſs claim the franchiſe of their father by patrimony: there is a kind of double franchiſe; the fellowſhip with the general body, called the freedom of the town, and that of ſome particular company, uſually ſtyled the freedom

of

of a trade; and the perſon who enjoys both is ſaid to be free of town and trade.

If a father, poſſeſſed of a right of franchiſe, die before admiſſion, all his ſons forfeit their claim. No natural ſon can inherit the franchiſe.

With a right to vote for two repreſentatives in parliament, every burgeſs, and a widow of a burgeſs, may claim two ſtints on the common and common-paſture of the town. Every freeman is alſo exempt from the payment of tolls, quay duties, river dues, &c. Franchiſe is alſo obtained by ſervitude. Anciently this ſervitude was in ſome companies for ten years; it cannot at preſent be for leſs than ſeven. A maſter, being free of the town only, cannot make his apprentice free; for, in order to this, the franchiſe of ſome company is indiſpenſable.

Some privileges are obtained by marriage: if a perſon who has a right to the franchiſe of Newcaſtle, marry a freeman's daughter before his admiſſion, he pays on ſuch admiſſion ſix ſhillings and eightpence leſs than thoſe who claim the ſame freedom either by patrimony or ſervitude.

The franchiſe devolves on a freeman's widow; ſhe can enfranchiſe the apprentices of her huſband, if he had been free of any company, and ſhe continues to carry on his buſineſs; ſhe inherits alſo her huſband's exemption from tolls, quay duties, &c. all which are loſt if ſhe afterwards marry a non-freeman.

The franchiſe of Newcaſtle, it is ſaid, cannot be ſold, but may be preſented as a gift, when it is uſually ſtyled an honorary or perſonal freedom.

It has been generally ſuppoſed, that an honorary freeman can neither tranſmit his franchiſe to his ſons, nor confer it upon his apprentices.

The form of the oath, on the admiſſion of a freeman of Newcaſtle, concludes with an expreſſion that ſeems to imply that every burgeſs is bound to a perſonal defence of the town.

It is uſual, on admiſſion, to preſent the mayor or alderman who admits, with a ſilver penny.

By the charter of the 42d of Elizabeth, March 22, 1600, it was ordered that burgeſſes ſhould be admitted by the mayor and burgeſſes, or common-council, whereof the mayor and ſix aldermen were to be ſeven.

By the charter of King James I. 1604, all cuſtoms, rights, and liberties of the town of Newcaſtle, held by former charter or preſcription, were confirmed to it.

The following paſſage occurs in the ordinary of the bakers and brewers, dated September 28, 1579. Every brother was enjoined to live in the town of Newcaſtle, and "continue therein as a burgeſſe of the ſame towne, to watch and ward, and beare ſcott and lott as other burgeſſes of the ſame towne ought to doe."

No freeholder in Newcaſtle has a right to vote for a member of parliament for that town, as ſuch, unleſs he be alſo a free burgeſs thereof; neither have they votes for repreſentatives for the county of Northumberland; ſo that by far the greater number of the inhabitants cannot be ſaid to be repreſented in parliament.

The odium anciently entertained againſt the Scottiſh nation, and which hardly yet has ſubſided among the

the vulgar, muſt be referred to as one of the leading reaſons, why ſo few of the preſent inhabitants of Newcaſtle enjoy the franchiſe of that town. There is a clauſe in the ordinary of almoſt every company, that no Scotſman born ſhould be taken apprentice; and it is highly improbable that any of that once hoſtile people would, at leaſt before the time of King James I. be admitted to a freedom of the town, either after reſiding any time in it, or on the payment of a fine: which ſeem to have been the ancient terms of admiſſion.

Form of a Freeman's Oath---from an old copy.

"Newcaſtle upon Tyne---You ſwear that you ſhall from henceforth hold with our ſovereign Lady the Queen's Majeſty that now is, and with her heirs and ſucceſſors, kings and queens of England, againſt all perſons to live and to dye and maintain the peace and all the franchiſes of this town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, and be obedient to the mayor, aldermen, ſheriff, and all other the officers of the ſame. And their council keep. And no man's goods avow for yours, unleſs he be as free as yourſelf and of the ſame franchiſe: and you ſhall obſerve and keep to the beſt of your power all the lawful ordinances made by common conſent on high court days: and all other things ſhall you do that belong to a freeman of the ſaid town. So help me God.

"Nov. 13th, 1704, John Wheatley, cordwainer, was this day admitted and ſworn a free burgeſs of this corporation, before the right worſhipful Thomas Waſs, eſq. mayor, and ſtands charged with a muſquet in defence of the ſame."

Parti-

Particulars concerning the Corpus Chriſti Plays,

As performed by the trading companies of Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

Whatever relates to this ſubject (ſays Warton in his Hiſtory of Poetry) is extremely intereſting, as theſe miracle plays were the firſt and earlieſt of our dramatic exhibitions.

Theſe appear to have been acted in the open air, in what is called in ſome places the Play-Field, or in ſome ſpot calculated to ſhew the performance to the greateſt crowd of ſpectators. They are reported to have been many of them very indelicate and obſcene. They were not without their uſe, however, not only in impreſſing on the rude minds of an unlettered people the chief hiſtories of their religion, but alſo in ſoftening their manners, at that time very groſs and impure; "creating inſenſibly," ſays Mr Warton, "a regard for other arts than thoſe of bodily ſtrength and ſavage valour."

In the ordinary of the coopers occurs the earlieſt notice of any of the Corpus Chriſti exhibitions in Newcaſtle upon Tyne. They are mentioned alſo in moſt of the other companies, as our readers will obſerve; it is, therefore, unneceſſary to repeat here the different parts they had to perform.

I know not (ſays Brand) when this kind of entertainment began. The Cheſter plays appear to have been written in the year 1328.

Weaver, in his Funeral Monuments, informs us, that about the beginning of the reign of king James theſe Corpus Chriſti plays were finally ſuppreſſed in all the towns in the kingdom.

The

The various branches of TRADE *and* MANUFACTURES, *carried on in Newcaſtle and its extenſive liberties.*

This department claims a large proportion of our work, and highly merits our chief regard. In general, to uſe the words of Faujas Saint Fond, member of the National Inſtitute of France, "Newcaſtle is ſituated on the beautiful river Tyne, which is frequently covered with veſſels, and bordered on the right and left with manufactures of every kind, down as far as its mouth which is about ten miles from the town. This charming river is rendered highly intereſting by the number and variety of theſe nurſeries of manufactures. On the one hand, are ſeen brick-fields, chymical works for making red and white lead, vitriol, &c. On the other, manufactories in iron, lead, &c.

"This multitude of eſtabliſhments, riſing oppoſite to one another, diffuſes every where ſo much activity and life, if I may uſe the expreſſion, that the age is agreeably aſtoniſhed, and the ſoul feels a lively ſatisfaction in contemplating ſuch a magnificent picture. Humanity (continues this great philoſopher,) rejoices to ſee ſo many uſeful men finding eaſe and happineſs in a labour (viz. the coal trade) which ſo extenſively contributes at the ſame time to the enjoyments and comforts of others; and in the laſt reſult, to the agrandizing and enriching of the government, which watches over the ſafety of the whole. Compare this honourable induſtry with that diſgraceful indolence, and diſtinguiſhing miſery which are to be ſeen in Roman Catholic countries, where pernicious laws permit a great portion of the population to be buried

buried in monaſtic inſtitutions; and it will ſoon be diſcovered how much government and religion influence the happineſs of mankind.

"The numerous coal-mines," adds Saint Fond, "in the neighbourhood of Newcaſtle, form not only immenſe magazines of fuel for the reſt of England, but are alſo the ſource of an extenſive and profitable foreign commerce.

"Veſſels loaded with coal, for London and the various ports of England, ſail daily from hence.

"Beſides this commerce, the navigation which reſults from the working of the coal-mines, gives an incalculable advantage to the Britiſh navy. The coal-trade forms a great nurſery of ſeamen; and in times of war, many coal veſſels have been armed as letters of marque, and done much injury to the common enemy. In this practical ſchool of ſeamanſhip, men accuſtomed to every kind of danger are to be found.

"The celebrated Cook begun his naval career as a ſailor in the coal trade. His enterpriſing and active genius ſoon raiſed him to the command of a veſſel. He afterwards purchaſed a ſhip on his own account, and diſplayed ſo much ſkill and courage in the midſt of the greateſt danger, when he as it were ſubdued the elements; and although young, acquired a very high reputation among his brother ſeamen. He afterwards entered into the royal navy, when he received from the Britiſh government that encouragement which he ſo juſtly merited. This aſtoniſhing navigator, ſailed three times round the world, and enriched geography, natural hiſtory, and navigation, with great and valuable diſcoveries. The modeſt habitation

bitation where this illuſtrious ſeaman was born, is preſerved with pious veneration."

Such were the general obſervations that this excellent and intelligent perſon made on the trade and manufactures of Newcaſtle about ten years ago, while reſiding a fortnight in the town. When we come to delineate the various branches of buſineſs carried on here, we will meet with ſome of his more detailed and particular remarks. We ſhall begin our account with

THE COAL-TRADE.

How bountiful is providence to man! The air, the ſea, the earth, harmoniouſly contribute to his convenience, and his comforts. But this benignity of the Creator is diffuſed over the univerſe, not in a blind, indiſcriminating diſtribution, but a beauteous arrangement is held forth to the eye of contemplation, conſpicuouſly marking all the works of the Creator's hand! And this is in no region of the univerſe more conſpicuouſly diſplayed, than in the world which we inhabit. How numerous, how various, and yet how uſeful, are the productions of nature on the ſurface, and in the bowels of the earth! And if Golconda, in the eaſtern regions of the world, boaſts of its diamonds, its emeralds, and ſapphires; if the mountain Potoſi pours forth its ſhining ores in the weſt, the frozen regions of the north can produce their iron, their tin, their lead, and their coal; which productions of nature, by the aid of navigation, eaſily ſecure the poſſeſſion of all the others.

It is remarkable, that the word "coal," ſo familiar to us, has, with little variation, been adopted, as the name of that uſeful mineral, by the Hebrews, the

Greeks, and particularly, as expreſſed in the ſeveral dialects of the north. This foſſil, grim in its appearance, ſays the poet,

> Is from its priſon brought and ſent abroad
> The frozen hours to cheer, to miniſter
> To needful ſuſtenance and poliſhed arts.
> Hence are the hungry fed, the naked clothed,
> The wintry damps diſpell'd, and ſocial mirth
> Exults and glows before the blazing hearth.

Of coal, that black, ſulphureous, inflammable matter, dug out of the earth, and at preſent the common fuel of moſt of Europe, as well as of other parts of the globe, conſidered as a genus, there are various ſpecies: the chief of which, according to the late ingenious profeſſor, Dr. Black, are common coal, fat, or blackſmith's coal, and Kilkenny coal.

Common coal, ſays the ſame philoſopher, burns with a bright hot flame.

Parrot is diſtinguiſhed by producing a more copious bright flame than common coal. It has alſo a cloſer texture, admitting a poliſh, and is often turned into punch-bowls, ſalt-ſellers, toys, &c.

Common coal has a much looſer texture, and is divided into maſſes by numerous cracks and flaws, ſo that it generally breaks into lumps of a cubical figure.

Blackſmith's coal gives not leſs flame, but undergoes a ſort of fuſion, and unites into maſſes, forming a cinder, which is afterwards capable of producing a violent heat. It is highly valued, becauſe perfectly free from ſulphur.

Kilkenny coals burn like charcoal, with a bright, tranſparent, blue flame, like that of ſpirit of wine, and without any appearance of ſmoke, leaving only a very ſmall quantity of aſhes. There is, however, a volatile vapour, probably fixed air, which riſes from it,

it, and gives a diſagreeable ſmell in the houſes where it is uſed. There are many ſtrata of it in the weſt of Scotland.

It is owing to that Providence, ever attentive to the wants of man, that this mineral is found in moſt countries of Europe. Conſiderable coal mines are found in France, Liege, Germany, and Sweden. Alſo on the other ſide of the Atlantic ocean, coal has been diſcovered and wrought: in Newfoundland, Cape Breton, Canada, and ſome of the New England provinces. But in all theſe countries, the coal is of a quality much inferior (ſay the learned compilers of the Encyclopædia Britannica Edinburgenſis, &c.) to that of Britain; and we feel ſome pride in adding, to thoſe of Newcaſtle.

"Coal (ſays Mr. Brand) of whatever kind, according to the hypotheſis of the abovementioned ingenious profeſſor of chymiſtry, and many other reſpectable writers and philoſophers, as well of our own as of foreign nations, is of vegetable origin: all the ſtrata of which are either the great collections of trees compacted together, or large foreſts thrown down by decay of time, and afterwards buried by ſome of the more violent changes to which the globe is liable, or other inflammable ſubſtances charred, perhaps, by the ſubterraneous fires, and incorporated with ſulphur and bitumen" This ingenious hypotheſis we do not preſume to controvert; nor do we forget the obſervation of the Abderites, who ſent a phyſician with a doſe of hellebore to Democritus the philoſopher, who was drawing his anagrams and geometrical figures of the component parts of the univerſe;---"What art thou doing, O Democritus; man was not made to conſtruct, but to cultivate the earth."---So

we, leaving learned diſquiſitions and chymical analyzations to others, wiſh only to point out the working, conveying, and advantages of coals, and of the coal-trade

Some of our readers might poſſibly enquire how, and at what period of time, huge foreſts have been thrown many hundreds of feet into the bowels of the earth, and become *carbonified* there; yet the hypotheſis affords ſome conſolation to thoſe who conſider, that according to the rapid manner in which the coals of this neighbourhood have lately been dug up, and that, in the ſame ratio, the coals will be completely exhauſted in leſs than two hundred years hence, and ſo that rich and valuable trade be at an end; but if coals *vegetate*, grow like plants, our poſterity may have a freſh harveſt to commence. Yet alas, we have faint hopes of ſuch a reſurrection ever taking place. Coals have been dug in this vicinity above ſix hundred years ago, but no traces of new ſtrata have ever been diſcerned.

That this valuable mineral has, for many ages, been known to mankind, and, of conſequence, the antiquity of its uſefulneſs, appears from the expreſs mention of coals uſed as a fuel by artificers about two thouſand years ago, in the writings of Theophraſtus, the ſcholar of Ariſtotle, who, in his book on ſtones, gives the ſubſequent very particular deſcription of them: "Thoſe foſſile ſubſtances, that are called coals, and are broken for uſe, are earthy; they kindle, however, and burn like wood coals. Theſe are found in Liguria, where there is alſo amber, and in Elis, in the way to Olympias over the mountains: they are uſed by the ſmiths."

Though

Though ſome writers have not ſcrupled to affirm that coal was unknown to the ancient Britons, yet others have adduced proofs to the contrary, which ſeem to carry along with them little leſs than conviction.

The Britons, as ſhewn before, had a primitive name for this foſſil; but farther, a flint ax, the inſtrument, ſays Pennant, of the aborigines of our iſland, was diſcovered ſtuck in certain veins of coal, expoſed to day in Craig Parc in Monmouthſhire, and in ſuch a ſituation as to render it very acceſſible to the unexperienced natives, who in early times were incapable of purſuing the veins to any great depth.

There are no beds of coal in the compaſs of Italy; yet the ſtrongeſt argument in favour of their opinion, who think that the Romans, while they were here, were ignorant of it, is, that there is no name for it in their language, the genuine and determinate ſenſe of carbo being charcoal. Cæſar is ſilent concerning it in his deſcription of our iſland.

It ſeems, however, to have been proved beyond all doubt, that, although it eſcaped the notice of that great people at firſt, it was afterwards in actual uſe amongſt them.

The Romans, whoſe ſound policy led them to improve, poliſh, and enrich the countries that their arms had conquered, ſoon after their landing in Britain diſcovered that it was an iſland of vaſt conſequence, and might be made by cultivation one of the moſt important provinces in the empire. Accordingly we find that they not only, along with the natives, ſet about cultivating its ſoil, but alſo ranſacked its various ſtrata of ſtone, &c. and, as we are aſſured by the learned

learned Doctor Whitaker, they appear as actually uſing coal.

Another equally well informed author in his Britannia Romana, tells us, that there was a colliery not far from Condercum, now Benwell, judged to have been wrought by the Romans.

When the Saxons were maſters of Britain, it ſeems that that people too were acquainted with this uſeful fuel. By a grant of ſome lands made by the Abbey of Peterborough, A. D. 852, certain boons and payments in kind were reſerved to the monaſtery, as one night's entertainment. Among the articles there are mentioned ten veſſels of Welſh, and two of common ale; ſixty cart-loads of wood, and twelve of foſſil, or pitcoal.

When the Danes invaded and conquered almoſt the whole iſland, they ſeem either to have been ignorant of the uſe of coal, or too much taken up in their continual broils with the natives to dig for it, as no mention is made of it during their invaſion.

When England ſubmitted afreſh to foreigners, and fell under the tyranny of William I. and the reigns of ſeveral of his poſterity, (during all which unhappy period the country ſeemed to be perpetually as it were under fire and ſword) the ſame ſilence reſpecting the uſe of that valuable foſſil may probably be attributed to the ſame cauſes.

But hiſtory affords us more certain information during a ſubſequent period; and, as we noticed in giving a detail of the various charters granted to Newcaſtle, king Henry III. granted to the good men of this town liberty to dig coals in the vicinity of that place. This grant is dated in the year 1239.

It is worthy of notice, that this ſpecies of fuel

fuel firſt obtained the name of ſea-coal about ſeven years after the above date.

Leland, in his valuable and informing Itinerary, vol. 8. p. 19. ſays, "the vaynes of the ſe-coals ly ſome time upon clyves of the ſe, as round about Cocket Iſland and other ſhores; and they, as ſome will, be properly called ſe-coals; but they be not ſo good as the caols that are digged in the inner part of the land."

This trade made rapid progreſs during the reign of king John, till the death of that unhappy prince.

But ſo changeable are the ſentiments of men, that although coal had been found for ſome centuries to be the moſt valuable fuel, yet, to our ſurprize, we find the uſe of ſea-coal prohibited at London in the year 1306 by proclamation! Brewers, dyers, and other artificers, who had occaſion for great fires, had found their account in ſubſtituting this hot and laſting foſſil for dry wood and charcoal; yet the prejudice was ſo general, and the oppoſition to it ſo powerful, that the two houſes aſſembled in parliament complained againſt the uſe thereof as a *public nuiſance*, as it was thought to corrupt the air with its ſtink and ſmoke.

Private intereſt, however, was deaf to the royal proclamation, and it was ſoon diſregarded; but this gave offence to the legiſlature, and, on a ſecond complaint, the king iſſued a commiſſion of oyer and terminer, with ſtrict orders to puniſh the delinquents by fines, and the demolition of their furnaces and kilns. Succeeding parliaments have thought very differently of this valuable article of commerce.

But a few years after this period, this ſpecies of fuel, ſo offenſive to the noſes of theſe faſtidious lords, was

was not only uſed in the ſhops of dyers and brewers, but blazed in the palaces of royalty itſelf, where it ſtill has a moſt welcome reception. In the petitions to parliament, A. D. 1321, 1322 we find, that ten ſhillings worth of that fuel had been uſed at the king's coronation!

Omitting other inſtances of a private nature, in which ſea-coal was in general uſed, we find A. D. 1327, the meaſure of ſea-coals having become an object of conſideration, and of conſequence a great and important article of commerce.——*Bourne's Hiſtory, p.* 158.

Three years after this period, we find a colliery at Elſwick, a village near Newcaſtle, demiſed to Adam de Colewell, at the yearly rent of five pounds.

Edward III. A. D. 1351, granted a licence to the burgeſſes of Newcaſtle, to dig coals and ſtones in a place called the Caſtle-Fields without the walls of that town. This grant was confirmed A. D. 1358 by the ſame prince.

A. D. 1365, the king iſſued an order concerning the meaſure to be uſed by the venders of coals.

A licence was granted A. D. 1368 to Roger de Fulthorp, John Plomer, John de Britley, and Walter de Heſildon, to bring their coals dug out of their mines in Gateſhead fields, acroſs the river Tyne in boats to Newcaſtle, on paying the king's uſual cuſtoms in that port. This grant was extended to two of the above merchants, to ſend their coals from Newcaſtle to any part of the kingdom, but to no port in foreign parts, but to Calais.

In the year 1379 a duty of ſixpence per ton every quarter of a year was impoſed upon ſhips coming from Newcaſtle upon Tyne with coals.

In

In the year 1421, the vaſt conſequence of the coal-trade, even at that remote period, appears by an act of parliament made that year, which directed "that whereas there is a cuſtom payable to the king of two-pence per chaldron on all coals ſold to perſons not franchiſed, in the port of Newcaſtle, and whereas the keels which carry the coals from the land to the ſhips in that port, ought to be of the juſt portage of twenty chaldron, according to which burden the cuſtom aforeſaid is paid; yet many now making their keels to hold twenty-two, or twenty-three chaldrons, the king is hereby defrauded of his due: wherefore, it is now enacted, that all keels be meaſured by commiſſioners to be appointed by the king, and to be marked of what portage they be, under pain of forfeiting all the ſaid keels * which ſhall be found not marked.

October 1, 1529 The haughty and magnificent Cardinal Wolſey, then biſhop of Durham, granted a patent, wherein he appointed William Thomlyngſon, keeper of Gateſide park, and his ſon Thomas jointly to the office of clerk of all his mines, as well as thoſe of lead and iron, as of coals, within his ſaid demeſne lands of Durham, to receive daily one chaldron of coals out of each coal-mine within the demeſnes of Gateſide, Whickham, and Lyon-Dean.

December 30, 1530. The Rev. Father in God Thomas Gardiner, prior of the monaſtery of Tinmouth,

* Keel, (ſays Brand) is a very ancient name, of Saxon origin, for ſhip or veſſel. On the firſt arrival of the Saxons in this iſland, they came over in three long ſhips ſtyled by themſelves, keels. In the Chartulary of Tinmouth monaſtery, the ſervants of the prior who wrought in the barges, are called, in the year 1378 kelers, an appellation plainly ſynonimous with our preſent keelmen.

mouth, and the convent of the ſame, granted a leaſe from Whitſunday next enſuing, to the end of twenty-five years, of all the coals and coal-mines in the fields and bounds of Elſwick, in the county of Northumberland, to Chriſtopher Mitford, of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, gentleman, at the annual rent of twenty pounds, upon condition that not above twenty chalder (ſix bowls to the chalder) ſhould be drawn in a day.

In the year 1536 coals were ſold at Newcaſtle upon Tyne for two ſhillings and ſixpence the chaldron, and at London for about four ſhillings the chaldron.

September 26, 1538, the Rev. Father in God Robert Blakeney, prior, and the convent of Tinmouth, occur as granting a leaſe of two coal-pits in Elſwick, to the above Chriſtopher Mitford, for eight years, at the annual rent of fifty pounds.

There is a curious paſſage from Harriſon's deſcription of England printed A. D. 1577, reſpecting the coal-trade of Newcaſtle and vicinity, which is as follows:—"Of coal-mines we have ſuch plenty in the north and weſtern parts of our iſland, as may ſuffice for all the realme of Englande. And ſoe much they doe hereafter indeede, if woode be not better-cheriſhed than it is at preſent: and to ſay the truth, notwithſtanding that very many of them are carryed into other countryes of the maine, yet their greateſt trade beginneth to growe from the fore into the kitchen and halle, as may appeare already in moſt cities and townes that lye about the coſt, where they have little other fewell, except it be turfe and haſ-ſocke. I marvayle not a little that there is no trade of theſe into Suſſex and Southamptonſhire, for want whereof

whereof the ſmiths doe worke their yron with charre-coal.

" I thinke that farre carriage be the only cauſe, which is but a ſlender excuſe to inforce us to carye them into the mayne from hence."

This plain but ſenſible writer obſerves farther, " I might here take occaſion to ſpeak of the great ſales yerly made of wood, whereby infinite deale hath been deſtroyed within theſe few yeres, but I give over to deale in this behalfe, howbeit, this I dare affirm, that if woodes doe goe ſo faſt to decay in the next hundred yeare of grace, as they have done, and are like to do in this (ſometymes for increaſe of ſhepewalkes, and ſome mayntaynaunce of prodigalitie and pompe, for I have knowne a gentleman that hath borne three-ſcore at once in one paire of galigaſcons, to ſhew his ſtrength and bravery) it is to be feared that brome, turfe, gal, heth, brakes, whinnes, ling, dies, haſſocks, flaggs, ſtraw, ſedge, reedee, ruſh, and ſea-cole, will be good merchandize, even in the citie of London, whereunto ſome of them alreadie have gotten readie paſſage, and taken up their innes in the greateſt marchaunt's parlers.

This quaint writer goes on to contraſt the manners of former times with thoſe of his own: " Now we have manye chimnyes, and yet our tenderlings complaine of rewmes, catarres, and poſes; then had we none but reredoſſes, and our heades did never ake. For as the ſmoke in thoſe days was ſuppoſed to be a ſufficient hardning for the timber of the houſe, ſo it was reputed a far better medicine to keep the good man and his family from the quacke or poſe, wherewith as then very few were acquainted."

Our

Our hiſtorian proceeds: "There are old men yet dwelling in the village where I remain, which have noted the multitude of chimnies lately erected, whereas in their yoong dayes there were not above two or three, if ſo many, in moſt uplandiſh townes of the realme (the religious houſes and mannour places of their lordes alwayes excepted, and peradventure ſome great perſonages) but each one made his fire againſt a reredoſſe in the halle where he dined and dreſſed his meate:" and, in all the bitterneſs of Horace's Laudator Temporis acti, adds, "when oure houſes were buylded of willowe then had we oken men, but now that our houſes are come to be made of oke, our men are not only become willow, but a great many altogether of ſtraw, which is a ſore alteration."

April 26, 1582, Queen Elizabeth obtained a leaſe of the manors of Gateſhead and Whickham, with the coal-mines, common waſtes, and parks, in both, of the biſhop of Durham, for ninety-nine years, at the annual rent of ninety pounds.

This, commonly called the grand leaſe, occaſioned an advance in the price of coals.

This leaſe appears to have been procured afterwards of the queen by the earl of Leiceſter.

It was afterwards aſſigned to the famous Sutton, who founded the Charter-houſe in London: and the price of coals raiſed to ſix ſhillings per chaldron.

Thomas Sutton, eſq. for the ſum of 12,000l. made an aſſignment of the above grand leaſe to Sir Wm. Riddell, and others, for the uſe of the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle upon Tyne: coals are ſaid to have been advanced on this occaſion to ſeven, and afterwards to eight ſhillings per chaldron.

A.

A. D. 1590, the price of coals appears to have been advanced to nine ſhillings per chaldron: upon which the lord mayor of London complained to lord treaſurer Burleigh, againſt the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, ſetting forth, that the ſociety there called freehoſts, to whom the grand leaſe was firſt aſſigned, for the uſe of the town, conſiſted of about ſixty perſons, who had made over their right to about eighteen or twenty, who engroſſed all other collieries, viz. Stella, the biſhop's colliery, Ravenſworth colliery, the mine of Mr. Gaſcoign, the colliery of Newburn, &c. requeſting that all the collieries might be opened and wrought, and that the price ſhould not exceed ſeven ſhillings a chaldron.

In the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth, the duty of the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne on coals, at fourpence per chaldron, appears to have brought in 10,000l. per annum to that corporation.

A ſociety of oſtmen or hoſtmen had exiſted as a guild or fraternity in the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, from time immemorial, before their incorporation by royal charter, which is ſaid to have been granted on the following occaſion: About the year 1599, queen Elizabeth requiring of the mayor and burgeſſes of that town the great arrears of a duty payable to the crown, of twopence per chaldron on coals ſold to non-freemen, in the port of Tyne, the date of the origin of which can only be conjectured, but of which there is expreſs mention in a printed ſtatute, A. D. 1420, it appeared that the payment of this impoſt had been ſo long neglected, that they found themſelves unable to comply with her requeſt; on which they beſought her majeſty to remit them the ſum, and to incorporate the old guild of hoſtmen; who,

who, on their incorporation, ſhould, by a grant to the queen, her heirs and ſucceſſors, oblige themſelves and their ſucceſſors, for ever, to pay one ſhilling for every chalder of coals exported from thence to the free people of England. So writes Gardiner; but they themſelves, in their own grant, affirm, that they were influenced by more generous motives, and that what they did aroſe from their gratitude to her majeſty for incorporating them by charter, as alſo to aſſiſt her, then labouring under exceſſive charges, in ſupport of the realm againſt its foreign enemies.

The agreement between the queen and this fraternity, concerning the impoſt of a ſhilling per chaldron, had been made, or at leaſt agreed upon before January 1600, for in the royal patent, dated at Weſtminſter, January 3, 1600, for the appointing of commiſſioners to meaſure keels at Newcaſtle, ſhe includes in that number, "the collector of the ſhilling per chaldron granted her by the hoſtmen."

Queen Elizabeth's great charter to the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, by a clauſe whereof this fraternity is incorporated, we find dated March 22, 1600, forty-eight perſons are named therein for the better loading and diſpoſing of pit coals and ſtones upon the Tyne, and for their own better ſupport as a ſociety, with the title of governor, ſtewards, and brethren of the fraternity of hoſtmen in the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne; a common ſeal is granted them. The governor and ſtewards are to be annually elected on the 4th of January. Power is given to load and unload any where on the Tyne between Newcaſtle and Sparhawk, yet as near to Newcaſtle as they can, notwithſtanding the ſtatute of the 21ſt of Henry VIII. &c.

April

April 8, 1600, the fraternity of hoſtmen of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, for themſelves and ſucceſſors, granted to queen Elizabeth, her heirs and ſucceſſors for ever, twelvepence for every chaldron of ſea-coal, ſtone-coal, or pit-coal, of the water meaſure of Newcaſtle, ſhipped in the port of Tyne, to be ſpent within the kingdom, and not ſent beyond the ſeas (coals ſold and carried from Newcaſtle to Hartlepool for the ſalt-pans at that place, belonging to lord Lumley, his heirs and aſſigns, or to any of the burgeſſes of Newcaſtle excepted.) This impoſt to be paid to ſuch officer or collector as the queen ſhould appoint, and that before the clearing of the ſhip at the cuſtom-houſe.

It appears by the order of the hoſtmen's company, dated A. D. 1600, that waggons and waggon-ways had not been invented, but that the coals were at that time brought down from the pits in wains (holding eight bowls each, all meaſured and marked), to the ſtaiths by the ſide of the river Tyne.

An intereſting account of the ſtate of the coal-trade at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, dated February 26, 1662, is preſerved in the books of the above fraternity: there appear to have been at that time twenty-eight acting fitters, or hoaſtmen, who were to vend by the year 9080 tons of coals, and find eighty-five keels for that purpoſe: the prices ordered were, for the beſt ſort not above ten ſhillings the chaldron; for the ſecond beſt ſort not above nine ſhillings; and for the kind called there "the meane coles," not above eight ſhillings for the ſame quantity.

In the year 1615 there appear to have been employed in the coal-trade of Newcaſtle, four hundred

ſail

ſail of ſhips, one half of which ſupplied London, as the other did the reſt of England with that fuel.

By this time the uſe of ſea-coal had become general, occaſioned, as it is aſſerted, by a great ſcarcity of wood, which of late years they had neglected to plant throughout the whole kingdom.

In the year 1622 there were vended by the ſociety of hoſtmen of Newcaſtle 14,420 tons of coals.

April 20, 1622, there was an order made by the above fraternity againſt the ſecret and diſorderly loading of coals. They had received ſeveral letters from the King and Privy-Council concerning this abuſe.

They were ſummoned to anſwer again by proceſs from the exchequer chamber againſt the governor, ſtewards, and ſome of the company, for the above defaults, returnable in the ſubſequent Eaſter term.

By a clauſe in an act of parliament made in the year 1623, the duty of twopence per chaldron, mentioned A. D. 1421, was ſaved to the crown.

February 16th, 1624, a proclamation was made for ſurveying ſea-coals at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, Sunderland and Blyth: his majeſty, by letters patent, made September 22d, 1623, to Meſſrs. Sharpy and Hedley, for twenty-one years, had erected an office for the ſurveying of coals to be brought to London and other places, with a grant of fourpence per chaldron for ſurveying them: by which they raiſed 3,200l. per annum.

In the year 1625, king Charles I. gave his royal conſent, that a contribution of ſixpence ſhould be laid on every chaldron of coals that ſhould be tranſported from Newcaſtle upon Tyne to any of his dominions, or beyond the ſeas into foreign parts. Alex. Daviſon,

Daviſon, merchant of that town, (afterwards knighted) was appointed to collect the ſame. Coals appear to have ſold this year at that place for ſeven ſhillings and ſixpence per chaldron.

November 13th, 1626, the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle deputed ſome of their brethren to London, to attend the lord chief juſtice and others of the judges appointed to make report to his majeſty the patent of ſurvey of coals, and ſtate to them the objections of this ſociety againſt it.

April 22, 1630, the king let to farm, under the great ſeal of England, to Sir Thos. Lake, Sir John Trevor, Sir Marmaduke Darell, and Sir Thos. Bludder, an impoſt on coals of five ſhillings per chaldron, for thoſe tranſported out of England, Wales, and Berwick upon Tweed, to any part beyond the ſeas, except Guernſey, Jerſey, and the Iſle of Man—of one ſhilling and eightpence over and above the five ſhillings on thoſe to be exported as above by any Engliſhman or deniſon; and alſo of three ſhillings and fourpence for every chaldron to be exported, or ſhipped to be exported, except for Ireland or Scotland.

In the year 1631, an information was made in the ſtar-chamber by Heath, attorney-general, againſt the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, for mixing 40,000 chaldron of coals.

In the year 1633 coals appear to have been ſold at Newcaſtle for nine ſhillings per chaldron.

A. D. 1634, the king, ſolely by his own authority, impoſed a duty of four ſhillings per chaldron on all ſea-coal, ſtone-coal, or pit-coal, exported from England to foreign parts.

In the month of October, 1635, coals ſold at New-

caſtle for ten ſhillings the chaldron.---They occur at the ſame price, water meaſure, as ſold there in the ſame month, 1637.

A. D. 1637, one ſhilling per chaldron appears to have been paid on the foreign vent of coals to the mayor of Newcaſtle upon Tyne. The ſame year the king granted, as Gardiner informs us, to Sir Thomas Tempeſt and others (notwithſtanding the former excluſive and perpetual right by charter of the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle) the ſole power of ſelling all coals exported out of the port of Tyne for twenty-one years.

In the year following, as the ſame authority obſerves, the king incorporated a company of coal monopolizers, Thomas Horth, and other maſters of ſhips, impowering them to buy all the coals that ſhould be exported from Sunderland, Newcaſtle, Blyth, and Berwick, paying to the king one ſhilling cuſtom for every chalder. They were to ſell theſe coals again to the city of London, at a price not exceeding ſeventeen ſhillings the chalder in ſummer, and nineteen in winter, &c.

The king, in the July following, adds the ſame authority, granted another patent to Mr. Sands, with others, for the farming of the above cuſtom of one ſhilling on every chalder, at the yearly rent of ten thouſand pounds.

Monopolies contributed greatly, among other grievances, to hurt the intereſt of the unfortunate Charles with the people of Great Britain.

The granting of theſe in the coal-trade, as ſtated above, appears to have compoſed no inconſiderable part of that unhappy monarch's political ſins.

When Newcaſtle was taken by the covenanters in the year 1640, the coal-trade, which before that event

event is ſaid to have employed ten thouſand people, ſuſtained an immenſe loſs: every one fled, thinking the Scots would give no quarter, and more than one hundred veſſels that arrived off Tinmouth-bar the day after the fight, hearing that the Scots were in poſſeſſion of the town, returned empty.

In the beginning of the year 1642, an ordinance both of lords and commons was publiſhed, prohibiting ſhips from bringing coals or ſalt from Newcaſtle, Sunderland, or Blyth.

About this time there was an impoſition of threepence laid upon every chaldron of coals, for maintaining the garriſon of Newcaſtle.

In the ſame year the king ordered that the cuſtom of coals tranſported into foreign parts, ſhould be taken according to the old and not the new book of rates.

In 1643 the commons paſſed ſeveral ordinances for raiſing monies out of delinquents' eſtates and Newcaſtle coals, to ſatisfy thoſe who had lent money for the advance of the Scottiſh army into England.

The ſame year, when the Scots beſieged Newcaſtle, the marquis of Newcaſtle ordered all the coal-mines to be fired. This was prevented by general Leſley's ſurpriſing all the boats and veſſels.

April 1, 1643, about this time there appears to have been a very great ſcarcity of coal in the city of London.

April 15, 1643, the Commons made an order to reſtrain the impoſitions of wharfingers, chandlers, and coal-ſellers, who appear to have added to the general calamity of London, in violently oppreſſing the poor by extortionable prices.

June 8, 1643, the Commons made an order to re-

ſtrain the prices of coals to twenty ſhillings, or not above twenty three ſhillings the chalder.

June 25, 1643, the gun-makers of London petitioned the houſe of commons for ſea-coal to carry on their trade, which had unfortunately by this time become a very important one.

July 20, 1643, it was earneſtly recommended by the houſe of lords to the commons, to ſend ſhips to procure coal, at that time a very ſcarce commodity, from Newcaſtle.

October 2, 1643, an ordinance was made by the lords and commons to ſupply the poor and others with wood, in default of coal, as Newcaſtle was at that time ſurpriſed, as it is expreſſed, by the "papal and malignant forces."

There is preſerved in Ruſhworth's very valuable collections, a curious letter from the king to the marquis of Newcaſtle, written in figure cyphers from Oxford, dated Nov. 2, 1643, concerning the procuring of arms from Holland in exchange for our coals.

Jan. 8, 1644, at a court of the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle, it was ordered that ſix brethren of that ſociety ſhould attend the mayor, to adjuſt ſuch quantities of coals as ſhould be lent to his majeſty to procure corn, powder, and ammunition, for the king's ſervice, and in defence of the country, purſuant to a commiſſion from the marquis of Newcaſtle.

July 20, 1644, the parliament made an ordinance to provide peat and turf for the city of London; the marquis of Newcaſtle, then in poſſeſſion of that town, having, as Ruſhworth informs us, prohibited the exportation of coals to that city, on account of the citizens' diſobedience to his majeſty.

After

After the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne had been taken by the Scottiſh army, the houſe of commons took the management of the coal-trade, as well as the government of that town, into their own hands.

The committee of the parliament at Newcaſtle ſent up on this occaſion a great quantity of coals for the relief of the poor of London, of which the commons gave notice to the lord mayor, with orders for the diſtribution of them. Coals had before this time been raiſed in London to the enormous price of four pounds per chaldron.

November 14th, 1644, an ordinance was publiſhed by both houſes of parliament, for opening the trade to Newcaſtle upon Tyne, and for annulling the former ordinance that prohibited the trade to that town.

On the 18th following, the commiſſioners of the parliament at Newcaſtle, with the concurrence of the hoſtmen of that town, made many regulations concerning the coal-trade.

On the 21ſt of December following, the commons in parliament made an order, that it ſhould be referred to the conſideration of the committee at goldſmiths's hall, whether any proportion might be raiſed out of the revenue of the coals, towards the monthly pay aſſigned to the Scottiſh army, without violating or weakening the engagement already raiſed upon the credit of that commodity; as alſo how that fuel might be beſt managed to the public advantage.

January 4, 1645, there was an order of parliament, that the committee of goldſmith's hall ſhould appoint agents at Newcaſtle, Sunderland, &c. to manage the coals and collieries of the delinquents, &c. and pay over ſuch monies as ſhould ariſe from thence to the treaſurer of the Scottiſh army, for the ſpace of four months or longer, if neceſſary.

March

March 20, 1645, it was reſolved in parliament, that the five ſhillings impoſed upon every chaldron of coals, by the commiſſioners of both kingdoms, at Newcaſtle upon Tyne and Sunderland, ſhould be taken off.

April 3, 1645, the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle petitioned the above commiſſioners to take off the threepence paid by them out of every chaldron of coals they ſold, as they had done the laſt-mentioned five ſhillings.

June 9, 1645, there was an order of parliament for the ſpeedy granting of five hundred tons of the coals of delinquents, to the mayor and town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, for the uſe of the poor and infected of that place, and among other purpoſes to repair the walls thereof.

Sept. 29, 1645, it was ordered by the parliament that Sir John Trevor, &c. ſhould be put into the collection of the twelvepence per chaldron upon coals at Newcaſtle, payable to the king, according to their leaſe from his majeſty of that duty.

January 4th, 1646, the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle ſet aſide their orders of the 7th of Sept. 1643, and the 20th of Auguſt, 1644, for the payment of threepence per chaldron on coals.

Whitelock, under the date of February 8, 1646, informs us, that four ſhillings per chaldron upon Newcaſtle coals were continued for the maintenance of that garriſon.

November 4th, 1646, the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle had an opportunity (and embraced it) of teſtifying their loyalty, as it were in kind, to their unfortunate ſovereign, at that time a priſoner within their walls, by defraying one half of the expence of the coals uſed by his majeſty and his retinue.

Feb-

February 8th, 1647, there was an order of parliament to continue the impoſition of four ſhillings per chaldron on coals ſhipped coaſtways, till the 25th of March following: this was entirely taken off on the 13th of April that ſame year.

There was an order of the common council of Newcaſtle, dated January 27th, 1648, that the coal-cuſtom of ſtrangers ſhould be ſo reduced that they might be induced to trade thither as formerly.

July 17, 1748, the commons in parliament confirmed an impoſt of four ſhillings per chaldron on coals and grindſtones, and on every weigh of ſalt from Newcaſtle, Sunderland, and Blyth.

In the winter of 1648, coals were ſo exceſſively dear in London, that many of the poor died for want of firing. Sir Arthur Haſilrigge, the governor of Newcaſtle, was blamed on this occaſion, for laying a tax of four ſhillings per chaldron on the coals at that town, eſtimated, ſays Walker, at 50,000l. per annum. May 16, 1649, the houſe of commons referred an inquiry into this matter to the council of ſtate; recommending it at the ſame time to a committee of the navy, to inquire into the twelvepence per chaldron on coals, and how it might be taken off.

The impoſition of four ſhillings per chaldron was entirely ſet aſide by a reſolution of the houſe of commons, made on the 11th of September following

Grey's account, in his Chorographia, of the coal-trade of Newcaſtle, about A. D. 1649, is well worth tranſcribing:

"There come ſometimes into this river for coales, three hundred ſayles of ſhips.

"Many thouſand people are imployed in this trade of coales: many live by working of them in the pits: many

many live by conveying them in waggons and waines to the river Tyne: many men are employed in conveying the coales in keeles from the ſtathes aboard the ſhips: one coal merchant imployeth five hundred or a thouſand in his works of coals: yet, for all of his labour, care, and coſt, can ſcarce live of his trade: nay, many of them hath conſumed and ſpent great eſtates, and dyed beggars. I can remember one of many that rayſed his eſtate by coale trade: many I remember that hath waſted great eſtates.

"Some ſouth gentlemen have upon great hope of benefit come into this country to hazard their monies in coale-pits.---Maſter Beaumont, a gentleman of great ingenuity and rare parts, adventured into our mines with his thirty thouſand pounds; who brought with him many rare engines not known then in theſe parts; as the art to boore with iron rodds, to try the deepneſſe and thickneſſe of the coale; rare engines to draw water out of the pits; waggons with one horſe to carry down coales from the pits to the ſtathes to the river, &c. Within few years he conſumed all his money, and rode home upon his light horſe."

"The coale trade began not paſt four-ſcore years ſince: coales in former times was only uſed by ſmiths, and for burning of lime: woods in the ſouth parts of England decaying, and the city of London, and other cities and townes growing populous, made the trade for increaſe yearely, and many great ſhips of burthen built, ſo that there was more coales vented in one yeare, then was in ſeven yeares, forty yeares by paſt: This great trade hath made this towne to flouriſh in all trades."

February

February 12, 1650, there was an order of the common-council of Newcaſtle to enforce the payment of an impoſt of threepence per chaldron received on all coals in the chamber of that town.

March 3d following, the Trinity-houſe of Newcaſtle made a reſolution to maintain their claim to threepence per chaldron, received by them from time immemorial, of the hoſtmen, for their free parts of ſhips; and which the mayor and common-council, by the above order, were for taking away from them, to add to the revenue of the corporation.

In the year 1653, the coal-trade appears to have been greatly annoyed by the Dutch men of war.

November 14, 1653, articles appear to have been exhibited againſt the town of Newcaſtle concerning the coal-trade.

Auguſt 25, 1654, mention occurs of a mutiny among the keelmen at Newcaſtle, for the increaſe of wages.

The port of Sunderland by the ſea occurs at this time as beginning to be of great importance.

In the year 1655, coals are ſaid to have been ſold at London for above twenty ſhillings per chaldron.—About three hundred and twenty keels appear to have been employed at this time in the coal-trade upon the river Tyne, each of which carried eight hundred chaldrons, Newcaſtle meaſure, on board the ſhips. To adjuſt the difference of meaſures, it muſt be noted, that one hundred and thirty-ſix chaldrons, Newcaſtle meaſure, are equal to two hundred and ſeventeen, London meaſure.

March 27th of the ſame year, the hoſtmen made an act for taking one ſhilling lighterage for every chalder of coals put on board of any ſhip below a

place called the Javil-tree, in the river Tyne; but in April the year following the lord protector Oliver, and the council, ordered the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle to permit the ſhips that traded thither for coals, to lade at the uſual rates.

At this time coals, which two years before had been vended on the river Tyne at ten ſhillings, were ſold at twelve ſhillings the chalder.

Feb. 23, 1658, occurs a petition of the merchant-adventurers of Newcaſtle to parliament, againſt the cuſtom of all coals tranſported, having been let to Mr. Martin Nowel, whom they charged therein with great acts of injuſtice and diſhoneſty.

This appears to have been let to the above Nowel at 22,000l. a year, of which ſum 19,783l. 14s. 8d. were for the coals of England, and 2,216l. 5s. 4d. for thoſe of Scotland.

In July of the ſame year, commiſſioners were appointed by the lord protector under the great ſeal of England, for the meaſuring of keels; which they appear to have done in a new and better manner than had been uſed before that time.

June 21, 1659, the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle upon Tyne were called upon, by order of the committee for preventing abuſes in monopolies, to anſwer the complaints exhibited againſt them by Ralph Gardiner, Eſq.

In December the year following a warrant was granted from the lord treaſurer, for the payment of the ſhilling per chaldron on coals that had been granted to queen Elizabeth by the hoſtmen, to lord Mordaunt, Sir Thomas Peyton, and Sir Jeremiah Whichcott, baronets, or their deputies; and the next day a warrant was ſigned by the above lord Mor-

Mordaunt, &c. to William Johnſon, Eſq. alderman of Newcaſtle.

January 4. 1661, the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle appear to have had intentions of balancing the coal-trade of Newcaſtle with that of Sunderland, by procuring a ſhilling per chaldron to be laid alſo upon coals exported from Sunderland.

January 20. 1662, an order was made by the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle, to oppoſe the laying on of threepence per chaldron on coals, having received information that endeavours were uſing to confirm their payment thereof by act of parliament.

The 20th of Auguſt in the ſame year, a petition, ſigned by two thouſand colliers, in order to be preſented to his majeſty, occurs; in which they complained of the wrongs done them by the coal-owners and overmen; a redreſs of grievances however prevented it from being ſent.

It was provided by the act for trade, 1663, that coals tranſported in Engliſh ſhipping and navigation for his majeſty's plantations, in lieu of all cuſtom, ſhall pay only for one chaldron of Newcaſtle meaſure one ſhilling and eight-pence; for one chaldron of London meaſure one ſhilling, provided good ſecurity be given for landing the ſaid coals accordingly.

In the journals of the houſe of commons, 1663, Newcaſtle coals at twelvepence per chaldron for the inland vent only, then at leaſe for 1836l. 12s. 6d. per annum, are reported to be worth 8000l. full value.

By an act made the two following years the weight and meaſure of coals were adjuſted in London, where juſtices of peace were impowered to ſet a price on them.

In the year 1666 the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle upon

Tyne laid an impoſt of one penny a chaldron upon coals cleared at the cuſtom-houſe of that town, for the ſupport of workmen laid off work; the collieries being all laid in, great quantities of coals being already wrought, and not ſold by reaſon of the war.

In January the year following, coals appear to have been ſold at an exceſſive price, for want of convoys to London.

By an act of parliament made in 1667, after the great fire of London, a duty of twelvepence per chaldron was granted to the lord mayor, &c. of that city to enable them to rebuild it, and which was to continue ten years; but this not being found ſufficient, it was made three ſhillings a chaldron, and to continue ten years longer.

By an act of parliament in 1672, a wiſe regulation was made for the encouragement of the exportation of our own product and manufactures, *viz.* the taking off aliens duty upon all the native commodities, coals only excepted, and manufactures of England, exported by foreigners; thereby putting them on a level with Engliſh ſubjects.

In the year 1675, Charles the ſecond let to farm to viſcounteſs Mordaunt, a third part of the ſhilling per chaldron upon coals, for thirty-one years, at the annual rent of 612l. 17s. 6d. to commence at the expiration of the term granted to viſcount Mordaunt, Sir Thomas Peyton, and Sir Jeremiah Whichcott.

Dec. 18, 1677, the king granted to his natural ſon, Charles, duke of Richmond and Lenox, and failing him and his heirs, to Louiſe, ducheſs of Portſmouth, and the heirs of her body, the reverſion of the twelvepence per chaldron on coals, the ſaid twelvepence per chaldron, the rent of 18361. 12s. 6d.

6d. as alſo the above rent of 612l. 17s. 6d. yet ſubject to an annuity of five hundred pounds, to Sir Thomas Clarges, his heirs and aſſigns, at a yearly reſerved rent of 1l. 6s. 8d.

January 4th, 1683, the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle ordered a warrant to be procured from the mayor and burgeſſes of that town, to ſeize coals that came into that port for Color-coats, or otherwiſe, contrary to the act 21 Henry VIII. or upon the cuſtom foreign bought or ſold.

A. D. 1685, there were ſo many foreign-built ſhips uſed in the coal-trade, and ſhip-building was reduced to ſo low an ebb at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, and other ports of the kingdom, that it was thought neceſſary that a duty of five ſhillings per ton ſhould be laid this year upon all foreign-built ſhipping.

May 6, 1686, a petition was preſented to the houſe of commons by the owners of ſhips, and traders in coals to and from Newcaſtle, Sunderland, &c. againſt a farther impoſition on coals. It was referred to a committee of the whole houſe.

April 23, 1690, a petition was preſented to parliament from the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle, for leave to bring in a bill for ſetting reaſonable prices on ſtaithrooms, and way-leaves, which was granted them.

December this year great complaints were made in the houſe of commons concerning the high price of coals, ſetting forth that the poor were in danger of periſhing for want of firing; on which a petition was preſented by ſome perſons, for leave to make a bank of coals within London and Weſtminſter, and to enſure the traders to Newcaſtle againſt pirates, and the dangers of the ſeas.

December

December 20, 1690, mention of his majeſty's royal aſſent occurs to an act for reviving a former act for regulating the meaſures and prices of coals.

A. D. 1693, the coal-trade of Newcaſtle ſuffered great interruption, the keelmen there being afraid to work, on account of an impreſs for ſeamen, concerning which the hoſtmen complained to the members of parliament for that town.

February 5th, 1694, a bill was brought into parliament for meaſuring the keels and boats at Newcaſtle by a dead weight; which was oppoſed by a petition of ſeveral owners and maſters of ſhips in the coal-trade.

March 6, 1695, leave was granted to bring a bill into parliament for the better meaſurement of keels and keel-boats at Newcaſtle; it was ordered to be engroſſed 21ſt March following.

March 12th, ſame year, five ſhillings per chaldron were ordered by parliament to be laid on coals, thirty-ſix buſhels to the chaldron, Wincheſter meaſure; and alſo five ſhillings per ton on all coals exported from Scotland, over and above the then duties.

January 9, 1696, a petition of owners of ſhips was brought into parliament againſt the above bill, wherein they ſet forth, that, by a ſtorm in September laſt, they loſt near two hundred ſail of ſhips, worth upwards of two hundred thouſand pounds.

February 19th, ſame year, leave was granted to bring a bill into parliament, to ſettle the rents of way-leaves and coal-wharfs; which, however, was not preſented till December.

An engroſſed bill for taking off the duties of tonnage upon ſhips and coals, was read the third time before the houſe of commons, April 24, ſame year.

February

February 6th, 1697, the hoſtmen of Newcaſtle petitioned parliament againſt an intended duty upon coals, &c. imported from Newcaſtle, for the reparation of Whitby Piers; which they alledged was injurious to the coal-trade, and a diſcouragement to navigation.

In the year 1699, one thouſand four hundred ſhips are ſaid to have been employed in the coal-trade, exporting yearly from Newcaſtle two hundred thouſand chaldrons of coals, Newcaſtle meaſure, in time of peace. Newcaſtle had at that time two-thirds of the coal-trade; three hundred thouſand chaldrons in all coming annually to London. The over-ſea trade in this article at the ſame time is ſaid to have employed nine hundred thouſand tons of ſhipping; ſo that the coal-trade made, at that period, the greateſt body of Engliſh ſhipping.

In this year petitions were preſented in the houſe of commons againſt the late impoſition of five ſhillings per chaldron on coals, from Scarborough, Sunderland, Ipſwich, and King's Lynn in Norfolk.

It appears from an account of the coal-trade, printed in 1701, that at that time the beſt coals in the pool of London ſold for eighteen ſhillings, or eighteen ſhillings and threepence per chaldron; out of which, eight ſhillings were to be deducted, i. e. five ſhillings to the king, one ſhilling and ſixpence to St. Paul's, and one ſhilling and ſixpence metage; and that at Newcaſtle good coals ſold at four pounds, or four guineas the keel, which keel made fifteen chaldron in the pool of London.

February 27, 1702, a petition from the coal-owners in the north of England concerning the decay of the ſalt trade, by which, to their great detri-

ment,

ment, they loſt the means of diſpoſing of their ſmall coals, was preſented to parliament. This was backed by another of ſimilar import from the ſalt-makers.

November 7, 1702, on an inquiry in the houſe of commons concerning the exceſſive price of coals within the bills of mortality, it appeared to have been occaſioned by the high wages paid to ſailors.

A. D. 1703, upon an inquiry of a committee of the houſe of commons appointed to receive propoſals, and prepare heads of a bill for the increaſe of ſeamen, and the ſpeedy manning of the royal navy, ſent to the maſters of the Trinity-Houſe of Newcaſtle, concerning the number of ſhips, &c. neceſſary for the coal-trade: they were anſwered by the fraternity, that ſix hundred ſhips one with another, each of eighty Newcaſtle chaldron, with four thouſand five hundred men, were requiſite for carrying on that great branch of commerce. "A number," they added, "both of ſhips and men, that had been engaged therein for three years laſt paſt." Coals occur at this time as ſold at eleven ſhillings per chaldron at Newcaſtle.

In the following year mention occurs in the journals of the houſe of commons, of the lords having given their aſſent to an act for the increaſe of ſeamen, and ſecurity of the coal-trade.

It appears that at that time there had been employed four hundred keels in the river Tyne, and between fifteen and ſixteen hundred keelmen.

From Chriſtmas 1704, to the year 1710, there appear to have been exported from Newcaſtle, communibus annis, 178,143 chaldron of coals; and from the port of Sunderland in the ſame time, 65,760 chaldron and a half.

In

In the year 1764, there were exported from the river Tyne for London and coaſtways, twenty thouſand chaldrons of coals, London meaſure; and forty thouſand chaldrons, like meaſure, for foreign parts; more than had been exported before in any one year.

The ſame year, 3,727 veſſels were cleared out of that river for the coaſt, loaden with coals, and 365 for foreign parts; a greater number than ever was known before.

A. D. 1765, 5 Geo. III. c. 35, ſec. 1, an additional duty was laid on exported coal.

In the year following, there was an act of parliament made to regulate the loading of ſhips with coals in the ports of Newcaſtle and Sunderland, to take place after the 1ſt of June, for ſeven years.

The ſubſequent is an accurate account of the ſtate of the coal-trade about the year 1772.

5,585 ſhips, 689,090 tons, 330,200 chaldrons of coals, with 123,370 hundred weight of lead, for the coaſting-trade. And 363 ſhips, 49,124 tons, 21,690 chaldrons of coals, with 30,064 hundred weight of lead, to foreign parts.

An act of parliament paſſed in the year 1773, to continue an act made in the 6th of George the Third, intitled, An act to regulate the loading of ſhips with coals in the ports of Newcaſtle and Sunderland, for a further term of ſeven years, and from thence to the end of the next ſeſſion of parliament.

The following is an account of the coal-trade for ſix years, on an average, to the Chriſtmas of 1776.

To London, and other ports of Great Britain, 351,000 chaldrons of coals (of which 260,000 to London); to the Britiſh colonies and plantations 2,000; to foreign parts 27,000. In all 380,000 chaldrons, Newcaſtle meaſure, per annum.

A. D. 1777, the wages for each able-bodied ſeaman for a voyage in a coal-ſhip to London, were fixed at 3l. 10s.

In the beginning of the year 1780, it was propoſed to lay an additional duty of four ſhillings per chaldron on exported coals.

This year died at Gateſhead, Baron van Haake, a native of Sileſia, who had come thither for the purpoſe of extracting tar from coal.

July 7, 1781, mention occurs of a machine to draw coals, as then invented by Mr Joſ. Oxley.

May 17, 1782, the royal aſſent was given by commiſſion to an act to revive and continue an act paſſed in the 6th of Geo. III. intitled "An act to regulate the loading of ſhips with coals, in the ports of Newcaſtle and Sunderland."

Thus have we given a general account of this rich ſource of wealth to Newcaſtle, the coal-trade, and of the vaſt conſequence to which it has raiſed this town. This important ſubject having employed the reſearches of ſome of the moſt philoſophical and ingenious men of modern times, we ſhall preſent our readers with ſome of their moſt uſeful obſervations.

Mr Charles Beaumont, in his treatiſe on this ſubject, tells us that he has explored coal in its original ſtate, and by attentive reſearches followed it through the various and amazing operations of which it is the foundation. "The mines of coal (ſays that ſenſible writer) may juſtly and emphatically be ſtiled the golden ones of Britain, and not only by that means the ſinews of her defence and welfare, but alſo, by manning her fleets, defending her from all foreign enemies, and protecting her colonies abroad.

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"The coal-mines in Great Britain is the ſource from which the nation derives its ſuperiority in its valuable manufactories. All thoſe numerous operations dependent upon fire, whether in engines of various conſtructions, or in the great proceſſes of brewery or diſtillery, and all that relates to the extenſive manufacture from grain or ſugar, molaſſes and ſweets, are the effects of this trade. All the manufactures of metals of every kind, from the moſt pure to the baſeſt, are carried on by coal fires; and all the great manufacturing towns, wherever ſituated, (London excepted) are eſtabliſhed in the vicinity of inexhauſtible coal-mines.

"I need only enumerate (ſays the ingenious author) Newcaſtle, Leeds, Mancheſter, Birmingham, and Sheffield, to illuſtrate theſe truths. Carron and Colebrooke Dale, ſo famed for their iron works, and many other important places in England, Scotland, and Wales, entirely owe their firſt eſtabliſhment, their population, their wealth and importance, to their lying adjacent to coal mines.

"The increaſed value of land in all parts where coal is found is wonderful; which, before the diſcovery, was deemed barren, as the country lay waſte and unpeopled. The numerous canals and conveyances from the moſt diſtant parts of the kingdom, owe their exiſtence to the wealth acquired by this invaluable mineral.

"From the anchor to the needle (adds Mr. Beaumont) and from the heavieſt piece of ordnance to the piſtol of the ſmalleſt calibre, depends upon the operation of coal-fires. All manufactures whatever owe their importance to the facility with which they procure the article of coal. In ſhort, it is the

foundation of all the valuable manufactories in Great Britain, and indiſputably the ſource of all her wealth, greatneſs, and ſafety.

"To theſe we may add, the national conſumption, ſo great and ſo important, from the greateſt cities to the ſmalleſt hamlets. Population ever increaſing where fire is to be had with facility and cheapneſs. Here induſtry, ingenuity, and labour of every kind, form ſettlements and eſtabliſh manufactories, which countries dependent for their fuel cannot poſſibly effect.

"Even the diſtant Britiſh ſugar colonies are obliged to have recourſe to Britain for coals to manufacture their produce; and the exportation from Britain to the continent of Europe is extenſive. The revenue ariſing from it to the nation is immenſe, and her nurſery for ſeamen by that article invaluable to her navy."

The author ſubjoins, "that the preſervation and extenſion of this article muſt therefore be of the firſt conſequence to this country, and conſequently the protection and encouragement of government ought to be expected to what can be demonſtrably pointed out of advantage to the coal-trade."

Mr Beaumont very feelingly points out the preſent embarraſſment in this valuable traffic; "the loſſes to the coal-owners on the river Tyne and Wear, for ſeveral years paſt, (many of whom are of the firſt rank and diſtinction in the kingdom) whoſe influence in benefiting their country will be defeated, if they find uniformly a certain loſs by working or opening new mines of coal.

"The primary cauſe of any loſs to the coal trade, ariſes from too many mines being open at the ſame time,

time, and conſequently the receipts cannot anſwer the expences of the works of each.

"The coal in the counties of Northumberland and Biſhoprick lies horizontal in general with a gentle dip and riſe, and very free from dykes, or troubles in the metal, but ſubject to fire and water, the latter often proving very expenſive. This coal is mixed with a kind of bituminous matter, and impregnated in general with particles of ſulphur; the former cauſing a ſtrong adheſion and ſtrength, the latter giving additional heat and ſpirit to the natural good quality of the coal. Hence the generality of it is excellent for every manufacture and houſe uſe, from its great heat and laſt; and after the coal is burnt, the calcined parts will renew into a ſtrong hot ſecond fire; and from thence ſome of it into a third: and it is peculiarly adapted to the working of metals, by ſpeedily fluxing them, which thereby prevents much waſte, and, from its heat and ſtrength, greatly facilitates the diſtillation and liquifying all ſubſtances requiring that operation; with the further great advantages of ſaving time and much wear in the materials: nor in the world is there yet any coal diſcovered that will work metals to perfection, equal with the Britiſh.---Hence the inſtruments of war are purchaſed from Britain by all nations, and her coal to manufacture a part by ſome. This quality in the coal, and the difference in the price, with the ingenuity and workmanſhip of the artiſt, gives their goods the preference at all foreign markets.

"The coal in Scotland lies in a very different manner to that in England; the metals and minerals being in a ſtate of confuſion unknown to the ſouth of the iſland: it is found and wrought in all directions, from

from the horizontal to near the perpendicular. From theſe cauſes are produced great and unavoidable trouble and expence, from the dikes, &c. which intercept the coal and make it frequently equally difficult as expenſive to regain.

"The beſt Scotch coal, in general, is a ſtrong ſplint, without much bitumen, and is in part worked in large pieces, that are ſold by weight: the round made in the working is ſold by meaſure, and the ſmall, or panwood, is chiefly uſed for ſalt-pans. They are ſeparated by the collier before he ſends them to the ſurface, into large maſſes, and chous, or round and ſmall, or panwood. The fineſt ſplint is a clear burning coal, but conſumes faſt, from its dryneſs, and laying open, from its ſize; which, *with the draft of the large chimneys*, adds to its *ſpeedy conſumption*," and, as Count Rumford very truly obſerves, *devours* the heat.

"Yet this clean Scotch coal has come much into uſe in the more opulent families in Scotland; as alſo at Amſterdam, where they generally lay on one piece at a time, with frugal care.

"The inferior kinds of Scotch coals make but poor fires; and even the common people rather buy the larger kinds, than the chous, as they give more laſting heat, and ſupply for light, in domeſtic purpoſes, inſtead of candles. The round ſells for ſeven ſhillings per ton, and the chous for five ſhillings.

"The French work coal in different provinces, and in the Netherlands, but the coal of the beſt quality France produces is like a mixture of Scotch and Welch coal, burning quick, without any great heat, and ſoon conſumed. Some of it is tranſported down the Scheldt into Holland, and ſells, on an average, at

fifteen

fifteen ſhillings per Newcaſtle chaldron, under the Engliſh coals, and, in times of ſcarcity, at more than double that difference. France, with her Netherlands, receives from England annually twenty thouſand Newcaſtle chaldrons, for the uſe of ſmiths and diſtilleries.

"The annual demand tranſported into the port of London is found, on an average, to be 760,000 London chaldrons; and it is computed that one million is received into the whole of the coaſting ports together."

Mr Beaumont then propoſes a method of working coal ſo as to gain many thouſand chaldrons of round or large coal, of which it would be too tedious to give an account.

It has already been obſerved, that the annual value of coal carried coaſtwiſe is nearly a million of Newcaſtle chaldrons.

"The different foreign ports receive annually from Britain nearly (ſays Mr Beaumont in his excellent Treatiſe on the Coal-trade publiſhed in the year 1792) the following quantities.

To the Dutch United Provinces	50,000
France and Flanders - -	20,000
Denmark - - - -	10,000
Hamburgh - - -	10,000
Sweden and Portugal - -	5,000
Ruſſia, Norway, and other parts	5,000
	100,000 Newcaſtle chalds."

The ſame ingenious author obſerves, "that the exportation of coals from Scotland is not at preſent very conſiderable; but by the cutting of an intended canal may be carried round the different fiſhing ſtations in the Weſt Highlands, which I can venture to ſay

ſay (he adds) will prove a ſource of inexhauſtible wealth to Scotland, and change an uncultivated and almoſt uninhabited country into a populous, trading, lucrative and beautiful ſituation, formed for it by nature; art only is wanted to be judiciouſly applied.

"The iron manufactories at this time eſtabliſhed, and by the eaſy conveyance of Engliſh coal, now duty free, would enrich that country; and, by making a new ſtation for ſhips of war at Oban, might be of great ſafety and advantage to the Britiſh navy.

"The lands in the Highlands abound in limeſtone, which are in great part now lying uncultivated, and apparently, to ſtrangers, barren, (as obſerved in other countries, until coal has been obtained on eaſy terms) giving a ſcanty meal and cold bed to the quadruped, would ſoon produce the neceſſaries of life, to all the inhabitants, cauſing ſuch an intimacy with England as ſhould unite the people by friendſhip and commercial connections, ſo as to make every diſtinction ceaſe.

"It would make Glaſgow the great market of Scotland, and of conſequence one of the richeſt cities in Britain. The lands around it would greatly increaſe in value, and through all the country, by diffuſing advantages into every part of the kingdom; and all this amazing improvement, wealth, and power may be effected by cheriſhing and cultivating the coal-trade. By preventing the waſte in injudiciouſly working the moſt valuable article, Britain or any nation can boaſt of, (with an air of honeſt exultation Mr Beaumont adds) as it greatly exceeds in value all mines of gold or precious ſtones: theſe create luxury, indolence, effeminacy, and weakneſs of mind and body; while the former, by their vari-

ous

ous operations immenſely exceeding in product, the value of ſuch mines, by being fundamentally the ſource from which ſprings Britain's wealth, with giving employment, and conſequently ſupport to many millions of people, with the bleſſings of health and ſtrength, by induſtry and profit to crown their endeavours."

This gentleman glances at the impropriety of continuing the tax of one ſhilling per chaldron on coals exported from the Tyne, (till of late) veſted in the family of Richmond, now made part of the national revenue, and of not extending it to all coals ſhipped from the other rivers in England. We will ſee, however, that as coals is a *neceſſary* of life, that this impoſt, with the other heavy duties on coals, are impolitic and oppreſſive, and may ultimately deter coal-owners from riſking their capital in digging for this valuable mineral altogether.

Mr. Beaumont mentions another diſcouraging circumſtance to the coal-owners, which is, that the coal-buyers at London have, by a combination, been able to burden the trade with demanding and obtaining a premium of one ſhilling per chaldron. He therefore concludes, that although the coal-owners on the Tyne and the Wear have formerly made, many of them, fortunes; yet for a conſtant ſeries of years paſt they have been loſers, invariably, by their coals; adding that it cannot be ſuppoſed that the owners of the mines, and of the ſhipping, will continue to riſk their capitals for nothing; and that without a ſpeedy regulation the annual loſs to the coal and ſhip owners muſt produce a decline of the trade, by the loſs of the owners' properties to ſupport it, both in the raiſing and tranſporting; and that inevitably

followed with conſequences ſeriouſly alarming. Injudicious impoſts, and of no conſideration in compariſon to the advantages that would reſult to the nation by cheriſhing the coal-trade, are accounted the bane, and will if continued prove the ruin, of this ineſtimable branch of commerce, and with it that of all others in this flouriſhing nation.

We ſhall here ſubjoin ſome remarks of a well-informed gentleman on this important branch of trade, contained in a ſeries of letters addreſſed to Mr. Pitt, anno 1793; in which the author ſubſtantiates the inequality, oppreſſion, and impolicy of the taxes on coals, as alſo of the grant of one ſhilling per chaldron to the duke of Richmond, now made a revenue-tax.

This author ſets out with obſerving, that, in no part of the world does this uſeful article conſtitute a formidable trade, excepting in Britain, and is inferior to no trade whatever on the ſcale of national importance.

To corroborate theſe aſſertions, he gives a detailed enumeration of the perſons employed in the different branches of the coal-trade, as exiſting and immediately depending upon the mines of the rivers Tyne and Wear. It will be proper, he adds, to recollect that this trade divides itſelf into three leading branches---coal-mining, coal-carrying, and the buſineſs of unloading, buying, ſelling, and delivering the article in the different ſea-ports, coaſtwiſe, and particularly in the port of London. We will not follow the author in theſe details; but to ſhew the prodigious conſequence of this ſpecies of commerce, he obſerves, that the ſums expended in materials for boring and ſinking, ſuch as wood, iron, ropes, &c. independent of the money paid for the excluſive privilege of working

ing collieries, and way-leave rent, amount, in winning ſome collieries, to upwards of thirty thouſand pounds.

The following ſtatement of the number of perſons employed and dependent on the coal-trade, on the rivers Tyne and Wear, in the year 1792, may be depended on:

Upon the Tyne are employed, under and above ground,

Men and boys	6,704	
Fitters, their clerks and runners . .	103	
Keel-men and boys, coal-boatmen, &c.	1,547	
Trimmers, ballaſt-heavers, &c. .	1,000	
Pilots and foymen	500	
		9,854
It will require 150,000 tons of ſhipping to carry 500,000 chaldrons of coals to market, which will employ men and boys, including ſupernumerary ſeamen - - - - - -	8,000	
Carpenters, ropers, ſmiths, &c. to uphold the keels .	100	
Carpenters, ropers, ſmiths, ſail-makers, maſt and block-makers, boat-builders, &c. to repair the ſhipping	846	
Purveyors neceſſary to ſupply the keels and ſhips with proviſions, and their families with proviſions	1,100	
Coal-factors, merchants, clerks, lightermen, metters, bargemen, coal-heavers, cartmen, and porters	2,000	
	21,900	
N. B. Many of thoſe perſons have families depending on the coal-trade for their ſupport;—ſuppoſe them one-fourth part of this number, (and 3 to a family unemployed) will come to	16,575	
Total on the river Tyne	38,475	

A ſtatement of the number of perſons employed in the coal-trade upon the river Wear.

In the ſeveral collieries above ground, men and boys	3,000
Above ground, bankmen and carriers, 50 each	100
Heap-ſhovellers and wailers	200
Above ground—blackſmiths 60, engine and gin-wrights 60	120
Waggon-ſmiths 40, waggon and waggon-way-wrights 100	140
Viewers 20, overmen and deputies 80	100
Agents 20, clerks 20	40
Gin-drivers 80, horſe-keepers 40	120
Engine-men, brake-men (for machines)	60
Waggon-men 500, creaſers for the ways 80	580
Staithmen 20, off-putters 40	60
Leaders at the ſeveral ſtaiths	100
Total employed above and under ground	4,620
Keelmen, boys, &c.	1,000
Fitters 60, Clerks 100	160
Caſters, trimmers, ballaſtmen, coal-boatmen, &c.	1,200
Pilots and foymen	100
Carpenters, ſmiths, ſail-makers, for 600 keels	100
It will require 106,200 tons of ſhipping to carry 340,000 chaldrons; which will employ, men and boys	5,100
Supernumerary ſeamen	400
To uphold and keep the ſhipping in repair	500
Purveyors, to ſupply the keels and ſhips with proviſions	600
Coal-merchants, clerks, lightermen, bargemen, &c.	600
Total in actual employment	15,000
Many have families depending upon the trade;—ſuppoſe one-fourth of the above number, viz. 3,750, and 3 in each family unemployed, in all	11,250
Total on the river Wear	26,250
Total of the number employed and depending on the collieries upon the Tyne and Wear	64,725

This very intelligent writer aſſures us that, happily for mankind, it is not for want of workable coal that the greateſt part of the northern nations ſhiver through the long rigorous ſeaſon of the year. The all-

all-prolific bowels of the earth teem with inexhauſtible ſtores of that valuable ſpecies of fuel. He takes a wide range in this inveſtigation; but principally confines his obſervations to our own vicinity, and ſays, "I ſhall not attempt to give a ſtatement of the numerous and extenſive ſtrata of coal diſcovered in different parts of England. Sea-borne coal is more immediately the ſubject of theſe letters. To give, therefore, ſuch a view as will enable the public to judge, with ſome degree of certainty, of the number of years which Great Britain may be in all probability ſupplied with coal from the banks of the rivers Tyne and Wear, is ſufficient for the preſent purpoſe. To do this, I ſhall, (ſays he) firſt deſcribe the extent of the ſeams of coal, which are worked at preſent; and next thoſe ſeams which may be worked hereafter.

"I ſhall make my calculation on general principles, and appeal to the experience and good ſenſe of thoſe acquainted with theſe mines, on the juſtneſs of the following data.

I. That the ſeams of coal which are now worked at Newcaſtle and Sunderland, are equal to a ſeam or bed of fifteen miles by twenty miles.

II. That this ſeam is at leaſt four feet and a half in thickneſs.

III. One ſixth of the above mentioned extent is ſufficient for pillars, &c. in the mines.

IV. It appears by trials made by Dr. Watſon, biſhop of Llandaff, that a cubic yard of coal weighs one ton, or 20 cwts.

Note, the Newcaſtle chaldron ſhould be according to act of parliament, fifty three hundred weight; and the London chaldron, may be ſtated at twenty-ſeven hundred weight.

I ſhall next give the annual account of the conſumption of coals from the Tyne and the Wear, which may be as follows:

	Chalders.
The conſumption of ſea-borne coal in London is generally - - - - -	900,000
Coaſt-ways at - - - - - -	700,000
The export foreign conſumption at -	250,000
Conſumed at Newcaſtle, Shields, & Sunderland	450,000
Total of the annual conſumption of coals from theſe two rivers - -	2,300,000

The number of tons in the above quantity, taking the chalder at 27 cwt. is 3,100,000.

I have already ſtated the authority of Dr. Watſon, that a ton weight of coals occupies in the earth the ſpace of one cubic yard. The number therefore of cubic yards of coals conſumed annually is 3,100,000.

The ſurfaces of ſo many cubic yards in the ſquare mile, are 3,067,600.

Theſe beds or ſeams of coal are, on an average four feet and a half in thickneſs, which encreaſes the above number of cubic yards in the ſquare mile by one half of the number of ſquare yards, to 1,548,000.

And hence the ſquare mile of the bed or ſeam of coal, I am deſcribing, contains

Cubic yards and tons of coal - -	4,645,000
A deduction of one ſixth for pillars, &c.	800,000
The number of tons in the ſquare mile is	3,845,000

I have already ſtated, that the annual conſumption of coals from theſe rivers is 3,100,000 tons.

It therefore appears that a ſquare mile is a ſufficient ſource of conſumption for a year and a quarter. I have already deſcribed the length and breadth of theſe ſeams of coal, as conſiſting of twenty miles by fifteen;

fifteen; making an area of three hundred ſquare miles, and conſequently a ſource of conſumption for three hundred and ſeventy five years; but we ſhall ſtate it as low as three hundred years.

The diſtrict which I ſhall next deſcribe as a ſource of conſumption of coals, is that from Shields to Whitehaven, a diſtance of fully eighty miles. That all the ſpace between theſe towns is full of coal equally good, and three times more plentiful than that I have already deſcribed, are facts well authenticated.

After a train of curious calculation, the author aſſerts, that in this new diſtrict there is a ſtock which will employ the carriers in the coal-trade, and the conſumers of ſea-borne coal, at the rate of the quantity now uſed, and a fourth more,

During at leaſt	600 years
The diſtrict 1 formerly deſcribed, at .	300 years
Theſe two diſtricts . . .	900 years

The Iriſh faſt opening their mines, they may leave at leaſt one half of the ſpace laſt-mentioned to be carried along with the Shields and Wearmouth coals; ſo that altogether the ſupply of coals from theſe two diſtricts, may continue fully *Twelve Hundred Years.*" He need ſcarcely have added, "Since this is demonſtrably true, the fears of a ſcarcity of workable coal are without foundation."

The gentleman adds, that "cruel would that government be, that would, with intolerable impoſts, deprive mankind of ſo rich a ſupply of an eſſential neceſſary of life, which is prepared for them by the liberal hand of a kind Providence."

To the obſervations of Mr. Beaumont and of thoſe contained in the letters addreſſed to Mr. Pitt, we ſhall

ſhall very ſhortly lay before our readers the very informing remarks on the coal-trade by Dr. Macnab, and with theſe we ſhall conclude our account of this important branch of commerce, which has enriched Newcaſtle, and raiſed it to that condition of increaſing conſequence which it now enjoys.

The learned reviewers juſtly obſerve in the introduction to their ſtrictures on Dr. Macnab's pamphlet, "that, in the opinion of that enlightened writer, Dr. Adam Smith, in his Wealth of Nations, foſſil coal being a moſt eſſential article of domeſtic commerce, and even a *neceſſary of life*, it is important to have all the circumſtances relative to it well underſtood; and the writer who ably diſcuſſes this branch of internal trade, may be pronounced to be a contributor to the public weal." "Dr. Macnab, (they add) appears to us in this light; and though he may be ſuſpected of leaning ſomewhat to the ſide of the coal-owners, he manifeſts ſuch a real knowledge of the ſubject, that he muſt be peruſed with ſatisfaction and advantage." The doctor takes a view of both ends of the coal trade, although his principal object in view is to reſiſt, as dangerous, the opening of coal mines in the interior parts of the kingdom for the ſupply of the London market; and this he does in a ſpacious train of reaſoning; which, however, will not ſatisfy every reader's judgment to conviction, of the truth of his poſitions.

It may not be generally underſtood, that the Newcaſtle chaldron ſhould weigh, by act of parliament, 53 cwt. and that 8 of the ſe chaldrons are equal to 15 London pool chaldrons; but it is likewiſe true, that the chaldron ultimately delivered to the conſumer is ſtill leſs than the chaldron in the pool; and that this

confuſion

confuſion in the uſe of the term muſt open a door to deception and fraud.

The coal-trade, ſays our author, divides itſelf into three leading branches, viz. coal-mining, the carrying trade, and the buſineſs of unloading, buying, ſelling, and delivering

On the firſt branch he gives this general information. The ſums expended in boring, ſinking, drifting, purchaſing materials, ſuch as iron, ropes, &c. amount, in common, from ſix thouſand to forty thouſand pounds, and upwards, on each colliery.

This ſtatement muſt impreſs an idea of the magnitude of this trade, which the ſubſequent details will confirm.

By Dr. Macnab's calculations, the number of perſons employed in, and dependent on the coal-trade, on the

River Tyne is - - - - - -	38,475
On the Wear - - - - -	26,250
	64,725

There are, ſays this author, upwards of fifty collieries in the neighbourhood of Newcaſtle and Sunderland,

The capital employed in which he ſtates at	1,030,000
In ſhipping on the two rivers - -	1,400,000
The capital employed by the London buyers	700,000
Total of capital employed - -	£.3,130,000

He boldly aſſerts, that the coal-trade alone exceeds the foreign commerce, and in the number of ſhips annually diſcharged, requires double the number of craft which is found neceſſary for the whole import and export trade of the river. Two thouſand one hundred and ninety ſix barges, averaging about

thirty three tons (amounting in the whole to 72,468 tons) are chiefly employed in the coal importation.

Some times, he adds, about ninety colliers, (coal ſhips) each requiring on an average thirteen barges, are diſcharged at once; 1170 coal craft will then be laden with coals in different parts of the pool at the ſame time, while the chief part of the remaining craft, above, and below the bridge, are uſed as floating warehouſes, until the coals can be diſpoſed of.

The monthly ſupply of coals for the metropolis, is eſtimated at 300 cargoes, of 220 chaldrons each, or 66,000 chaldrons. It is therefore, not unlikely that 50,000 chaldrons remain expoſed to depredations in open craft in the river, all the year round.

The defence of the conduct of the coal-owners in entering into a ſort of combination, employs a principal ſhare of Dr. Macnab's pamphlet, and which he maintains to be as much for the public benefit, as for that of the individuals concerned. It is acknowledged, ſays he, that a general agreement had been entered into by the coal-owners to vend only a proportionable quantity of coal in a given time, for each colliery; and the doctor contends that it was neceſſary to prop up the coal-trade by ſuch a regulation, which though in its complexion it be contrary to law, is good in ſpirit, and beneficial in its effects.

To ſupport this aſſertion, he quotes the evidence of Nathaniel Clayton, eſq. given before the coal committee of the houſe of commons, whoſe evidence, he adds, was the moſt informing, convincing, and clear of all that were given on that momentous buſineſs: For thus Mr. Clayton ſtrongly expreſſes himſelf: "I have no doubt that one of the motives which led to this agreement, was the ſecuring to the mine adventurer,

turer, an adequate profit upon that adventure; and I am equally clear that the public have been, in the final reſult, materially benefited by the operation of the agreement." By this laſt aſſertion, Mr. Clayton means that collieries have thus been worked, and made to yield a regular ſupply, at a legitimate price, which, otherwiſe muſt have been abandoned; and which, if once loſt, could never be reſumed. It is indeed obſerved by all writers on the ſubject, upon the evidence of the moſt intelligent viewers of collieries, that when they are once loſt, or abandoned, they ſeldom or ever are regained.

Having in a ſecond pamphlet, reſumed this ſubject, he ſtill maintains, that although there are abundance of mines of coal in the internal parts of the country, yet the doctor reſiſts the idea of opening a ſupply for London from theſe ſources. Nor does he forget the powerful argument in favour of the north country coal trade, that it is the great nurſery of the Britiſh navy----a conſideration which will ever have its weight with the legiſlators of the Britiſh nation.

Having now attempted a full and diſtinct account of the origin, progreſſive improvement, and importance of commerce in coal, we ſhall finiſh this department of our hiſtory with pointing out the manner of attaining this valuable foſſil. And as this has been deſcribed with great accuracy by the compilers of the Edinburgh Encyclopedia, in their article "Collieries," we ſhall give it in the words of theſe ingenious gentlemen.

Boring and ſinking.

The tools of borers are of the ſimpleſt kind, and conſiſt of iron rods, each between three and four feet

long, and about an inch and a half ſquare, with a ſcrew (a bed and what fits into it) at each end, by which they are united, and lengthened out as the hole increaſes in its depth. The chiſel is about eighteen inches long, and two and a half broad at the end, and is fixed to the loweſt of the rods. The uppermoſt rod is furniſhed with an eye, wherein to inſert a piece of timber for an handle for two or more workmen to take hold of at once. Their mode of operation is to lift up the rods a little, and then let them fall again, turning them at the ſame time gently round: by a continuance of this motion a round hole is fretted and worn by degrees through the hardeſt ſtrata.

When the chiſel is quite blunted, or has cut down four or ſix inches, the rods are lifted up, either altogether, if there be convenience, or by pieces, when a key is uſed to keep the rods from dropping down into the hole, they then being either loſt, or recoverable only with great labour. The chiſel is ſcrewed off, and the wimple or ſcoop put on. This being put down brings up afterwards the duſt or pulveriſed matter of the ſtratum, through which the chiſel has cut, and ſhews as well what kind of matter they are boring in as the exact depth thereof.

The ſkilful workmen, however, feel eaſily, and diſtinguiſh the ſorts of ſtrata they are upon by the difficulty or facility with which they advance downwards. The principal part of the borer's art depends on keeping the hole clean, and obſerving every variation of the ſtrata with care and attention.

By the witneſs of the rods they know when any feeder of water is pricked, and by their falling down

as

as it were without any labour, when they are upon an old waſte or colliery that has been wrought before.

This is an art of the utmoſt uſe and importance to collieries; for by boring previouſly to the ſinking of a pit, the owner procures moſt eſſential data whereon to proceed, being informed before hand of the nature of the earth, minerals and waters through which he has to paſs, and knowing to an inch or ſo how deep his coal lies, as well as its quality, and the thickneſs of the ſtratum or bed. The boring notes of collieries are the grand arcana of the coal-trade, and ſecrets which the owners by no means chuſe to diſcover to the prying eyes of the curious philoſopher.

No leaſe is taken of any ground which has not previouſly been explored by boring. The boring being completed, in order to win the coals, they afterwards ſink what is called the ſhaft of the pit, i. e. the narrow, round, perpendicular paſſage into the mine.

The inclination or dip of the ſtrata is found to hold every where. In ſome places it varies very little from the level; in others very conſiderably; and in ſome ſo much as to be nearly in a perpendicular direction: but whatever degree of inclination the ſtrata have to the horizon, if not interrupted by dikes, hitches, or troubles, they are always found to lie in the firſt regular manner mentioned. They generally continue upon one uniform dip until they are broken or diſordered by a dike, hitch, or trouble, by which the dip is often altered, ſometimes to a different part of the horizon, and often to an oppoſite point; ſo that on the ſide of a dike, hitch, or trouble, if the ſtrata have an eaſt dip, on the other ſide they may have an eaſt riſe, which is a weſt dip; and in general

any

any conſiderable alteration in the dip is never met with, but what is occaſioned by the circumſtances laſt mentioned.

It is very obſervable, that in ſome places near Newcaſtle upon Tyne there are four different ſtrata or ſeams of coals, one above another, at conſiderable diſtances.

The following occurs in the affidavits of viewers 1722, Sir Robert Raymond's Report, Walker manor, 1723.

"In Benwell, Elſwick, and Fenham collieries, there have been before the working thereof certain ſeams of coals, called the upper main coal, the metal coal, the ſtone coal, and the main coal."

Hewing coal in the pit.

In the progreſs of hewing the coal from its bed, the hewer firſt digs as far as he can into the bottom of the ſtratum; then he nooks or corners off the part meaſured out, and afterwards the great coals come away by a wedge or mallet.

The wages of hewers two ſhillings and eightpence for hewing every ſcore or twenty corves of coals. This a good workman can do in one day.

In high ſeams or ſtrata the coals are drawn by horſes from the hewers to the ſhaft in the ſledges; in low ſeams, on trams, pulled by two ſmall cords called ſoams by a boy before, and puſhed on at the ſame time by another boy from behind. The wages of horſe drivers a ſhilling per day.

The overman's office is to go through the pit to view the places where the men have wrought, to ſee that the pit is clear of ſulphur, &c. His uſual wages ten ſhillings per week, whether the pits work or not.

The

The deputy overman ſuperintends the pillars of coal that are left to ſupport the roof of the pit, to ſet up props where it is looſe, and threatens a fall. His uſual pay nine ſhillings per week, whether the pit works or not.

It is the onſetters buſineſs to hang on the corves upon the rope to be drawn up the ſhaft. Wages one ſhilling and twopence per day.

Of blaſts and foul air in coal mines.

Of the foul or adulterated air, ſo often troubleſome in collieries, there are two kinds, the black damp or ſtyth, which is of a ſuffocating nature; and the inflammable or combuſtible damp. In whatever part of any colliery a conſtant ſupply or circulation of freſh air is wanting, there ſome of theſe damps exiſt, accumulating in a body, and become noxious or fatal; and wherever there is a good circulation of freſh air, they cannot accumulate, being mixed with and carried away by the ſtream of air as faſt as they generate, or exhale from the ſtrata. Upon theſe principles are founded the ſeveral methods of ventilating a colliery. If at any time the circulation of the freſh air is not briſk enough, then a large lamp of fire may be placed at the bottom of the pit, which, by rarefying the air there, will make a quicker circulation.

The following account of the damps is preſerved in the Life of Lord Keeper North, and is dated 1676: "Damps or foul air kill inſenſibly; ſinking another pit, that the air may not ſtagnate, is an infallible remedy. They are moſt in very hot weather. An infallible trial is by a dog, and the candles ſhew it. They ſeem to be heavy ſulphureous air, not fit for breath; and I have heard ſome ſay, that they would

would ſometimes lie in the midſt of a ſhaft, and the bottom be clear. The flame of a candle will not kindle them ſo ſoon as the ſnuff; but they have been kindled by the ſtriking fire with a tool.

" The blaſt is mighty violent, but men have been ſaved by lying flat on their bellies."

Curious engines and machines for raiſing the coals.

To prevent the colliery from being overflowed with water, and conſequently loſt, large engines, which are worked by the force of ſteam upon the trueſt principles of pneumatics, are employed. And it is ſtriking to obſerve how many tons of water are drawn to the mouth of the pit in a few minutes. The moſt ingenious of theſe ſteam engines are thoſe of an improved conſtruction, invented by Meſſ. Bolton and Watt.

The machine called a Gin, which raiſeth the coals from the pit, is very convenient, and is worked with ſtout horſes. The buckets are of oſiers, ſtrongly bound with iron They contain at leaſt twelve hundred weight of coal each; and as the one aſcends while the other deſcends, one of them arrives at the mouth of the ſhaft, or pit, every four minutes. When the bucket comes up a ſingle man receives it; and while it is yet ſuſpended, he places it upon a dray drawn by one horſe. He then unhooks the bucket, puts an empty one in its place, and conducts the dray to a ſpot ſomewhat elevated, at a ſhort diſtance, and where ſome boards are erected in the form of a ſhed. The duſt paſſes through holes while the larger pieces of coal rolling down the inclined plane, falls upon the ground in heaps, on the outſide of it.

It

It might be expected that it would require a great number of horſes and men to tranſport the vaſt quantity of coals deſtined for embarkation, and that this operation would require immenſe expence. But art has ſupplied the place of horſes, and even rendered them almoſt unneceſſary. The following is the ſimple and ingenious manner in which this uſeful improvement is effected.

Roads, which have nearly an inſenſible inclination, are formed with the greateſt care, and continued to the place where the veſſels are loaded. The length of theſe roads is frequently ſeveral miles.

This firſt operation being completed, two lines exactly parallel are traced along the road or way, at the exact diſtance which ſeparates the wheels of the waggon deſtined to convey the coal; logs of hard wood are laid along theſe two parallel lines, firmly fixed in the earth with pins, and their ſurface covered, in many places, with plates of iron. The ſuperior parts of theſe planks are carefully cut into a kind of moulding, which is well rounded, and projects upwards. The thickneſs of theſe elevated ledges muſt correſpond with the width of the groove in the waggon-wheels, which are made of caſt iron, and hollowed in the manner of a metal pulley. The wheels are completely caſt in one piece, in a mould from which the rim comes out hollowed.

The moulding is well greaſed, and poliſhed by continual friction. Large four-wheeled waggons, containing eighty hundred weight of coal each, move along the inclined plane, by the laws of gravity, ſometimes without the help of a ſingle horſe, and proceed, in the rear of each other, until they reach the river. A perſon ſits on the fore-part of the wag-

gon, with his foot upon a ſtrong piece of wood, called the *convoy*, and that moves on a pivot, which rubbing on one of the wheels, he can encreaſe or diminiſh the velocity at pleaſure, while the horſe deſtined to draw back the empty waggon for a freſh cargo, walks behind. When the waggon comes to the trap in the platform of the ſtaith, its bottom, by a ſtroke or two, is opened, when by a funnel it diſcharges its contents with great noiſe and duſt into the ſhip's hold or keel, placed below to receive their loading. This ingenious contrivance is as expeditious as it is economical, and ſoon indemnifies the proprietors for money advanced in conſtructing theſe ways, over deep hollows, levelling heights, and forming them for miles together into an inclined plane.

In ſome other ways no horſes are employed at all, as the declenſion of the loaded waggon towards the river draws up a light one on another direction. This economy and expedition enable the Engliſh (ſays St. Fond) to export their rich and valuable coals to all the ports of France and the Mediterranean cheaper than they can their own coals, three or four miles by land carriage.

Coke.

The immenſe quantities of ſmall coal, which would prove a nuiſance in other countries, is converted, by the active ingenuity of the people of Newcaſtle, to a valuable purpoſe; and this unſightly maſs of duſt is rendered by the action of fire into a ſubſtance reſembling charcoal.

The proceſs is ſimply this. The coal duſt is put into a kind of kiln, which is firſt well heated with large pieces of coal. This duſt then coagulates and runs

runs into a maſs, without loſing any thing except its bitumen. When the ignited maſs is completely red, large pieces of it are pulled out with iron rakes and laid on the ground, which they ſcarcely reach before they are cooled and extinguiſhed. Theſe pieces are firm, though porous, and are exceedingly well adapted not only for chamber fires, but, what in this commercial country is much more important, for ſmelting iron ore in high furnaces. This ingenious contrivance has given birth to ſeveral new branches of induſtry and commerce.

The coal thus prepared is called in England, Coke, and is uſed in great numbers of manufactories as a ſubſtitute for charcoal, to which it is in moſt inſtances much ſuperior, producing a ſtronger, more equal, and longer continued heat. It ſaves timber, oak, and other valuable wood. Foreign nations are ſupplied with grindſtones, cinders, or coke, all from below bridge.

The induſtry of the inhabitants of Newcaſtle (ſays St. Fond) is ſo active, that they turn into ſome uſe every object that preſents itſelf. They have even turned into profit the pyrites, or braſſes, which injure the qualities of the coal; and by a ſimple proceſs make from them large quantities of vitriol for home and foreign conſumption; but the mode of conducting the proceſs is too tedious to detail here; beſides, it is well known to moſt of our readers.

MANUFACTORIES

In Newcaſtle, and on the banks of the river Tyne.

To a lover of mankind, no object is more pleaſing than to behold the induſtry of man exerciſed in manufactories

nufactories of various kinds. Theſe operations provide for our wants and conveniences, and ſupply us with the elegancies of life. Such prodigies of induſtry, are owing to the united efforts of men; they have alſo highly contributed to the expanſion of the powers of the human mind. But before they have arrived at that pitch of perfection to which they have attained, they muſt have paſſed through a thouſand eſſays, and a thouſand obſcurities, which announced, that their progreſs is the ſame with that of the human mind, which proceeds by ſmall ſteps, in the path of diſcovery. We likewiſe ſee the manner in which different nations exerciſe the ſame art, by various proceſſes in various operations. But ſcarcely any where can the uſeful arts of life be ſeen with more intereſt, than in the ſubject of our preſent hiſtory. And all this in a great meaſure, depending upon the great abundance of excellent coal with which the adjacent country abounds. And although it may be deemed a little extraneous, yet as it is a remark from Dr. Franklin, that friend of the whole human race, we ſhall here inſert it.

That learned man, in a converſation with ſome intelligent Americans, obſerved, "It cannot be doubted that it is owing to the coal-mines that ſuch ſcenes of activity and buſineſs every where preſent themſelves to our pleaſing aſtoniſhment in Britain. I have travelled much in Italy and France; and when I paſſed through the latter country, in the midſt of winter, I obſerved with ſorrow, that the inhabitants of ſeveral provinces were in the greateſt diſtreſs, on account of the want of fuel. The effect of cold was ſuch, that whole families were obliged to retire to their beds, where they remained in a ſtate of

of torpor, unable to labour, and conſumed in a few days all their little earnings. I need not add that their manufactories languiſhed, and the ſtreets were crowded with ſhivering beggars!"

How different in England, where their winters are much longer, though leſs ſevere, than in the north of France.

The Engliſh peaſant, placed beſide a good fire, which at once lights and warms his cottage, finds himſelf happy and comfortable. The father prepares his inſtruments of huſbandry, for the enſuing ſpring; his ſons aſſiſt him; his daughters ſpin wool or cotton; the mother manages the affairs of the family; and as the blazing fire is kept up during the whole night, their labour is prolonged in defiance of the climate. In their manufactories, whether in town, or in the country, the ſame alacrity prevails. The artizan never ſuffers from cold, and is exempt from all the rigours and diſeaſes of the winter. Thus that ſeaſon, which in other countries is, in general, ſo fatal to induſtry, does not diminiſh the labour of the people of England; and the neceſſary conſequence of a great maſs of population, conſtantly employed in purſuits of commerce, and of manufactures, is an encreaſe of wealth, equally advantageous to the ſtate, and to individuals.

Iron manufactories.

Iron, ſays Abbe Raynal, is the moſt uſeful of all metals. Gold and ſilver are valuable as a circulating medium, and repreſent the imaginary value of the neceſſaries of life; but iron cultivates the ground, and arms the hand of the artiſt to procure them for the uſe of man. Our ſurprize will therefore be leſſened, when

when Cook, and other voyagers, inform us, of the avidity with which the iſlanders of Otaheite, and others in the Southern Ocean, purchaſed a knife, and chiefly an axe, at the expence of many hogs, after they became acquainted with the various uſes of that implement. Numerous are the iron works in Newcaſtle and its vicinity. We ſhall begin with the iron and ſteel manufactory in Swalwell, about four miles above that town.

This is the greateſt on the whole extent of the Tyne, and is a ſtriking proof of what the genius of of one man can effect in a *free* country. The name of this wonderful character, was Ambroſe Crowley. From the condition of a common blackſmith, he, by the vigour of his mind, planned and executed the moſt ſurprizing inventions for hammering, ſlitting, and in a word converting iron and ſteel into all forms, and uſeful implements, whether for the field or the manufactory. In Swallwell, Winlaton, and ſeveral towns, all reared by Mr. Crowley, are made by many hundreds of ſmiths, all the tools for huſbandry for our Weſt Indies, mattocks, admirable ſpades, hoes, &c. Here, in huge furnaces, are formed anchors of vaſt ſize, chains of prodigious magnitude for our ſhips of war, Eaſt Indiamen, and all Europe; while uſeful implements of houſehold furniture are here glancing to the aſtoniſhed ſight of the curious ſtranger, who never fails to viſit thoſe vaſt and ſurprizing works of invention and uſefulneſs.

But the genius of Mr. Crowley extended to the knowledge of man as well as to that of metals, and of the mechanic powers to transform the laſt; he well knew, that a number of men, working over fierce, huge fires, which naturally inflame their blood, and occaſion

occaſion a kind of impatience, and ferocity of temper, upon little provocation would be inclined to diſcord, and quarrels. To prevent which this diſcerning man drew up himſelf a code of regulations for the conduct of all his people, planned with ſuch wiſdom, as would do honour to the moſt enlightened legiſlators, and, which he rigouroufly made to be obſerved. He knew that religion of all other means is the beſt calculated to civilize the mind, and upon the beſt principles to be obedient and ſubmiſſive to their ſuperiors, who wiſh to promote their beſt intereſts. He therefore built a handſome chapel, and gave a clergyman a decent ſallary for performing the ſacred duties of religion among his numerous and ingenious artiſts. To this he endowed a free-ſchool for the education of their children. He likewiſe built an aſſylum in the form of a ſquare to ſerve as a quiet retreat for his aged ſervants, with an allowance to make their lives eaſy, when not able to ply the thundering hammer, or to turn the hiſſing brand no more.

Theſe admirable regulations, which ſtill exiſt, are attended with the moſt ſalutary effects. Every man, (or at leaſt many) has a ſhop and tools allowed him, by himſelf, as he works ſo he gains; and as the rules hang over him, if he wilfully tranſgreſſes them, every thing is conducted with ſuch order and regularity that is ſeldom to be found among ſuch a vaſt body of active and vigorous men. Their earnings are various; but as every man is confined to one branch, they, in general, acquire ſuch a facility and expedition in their reſpective departments, that, it is ſaid, they can, with eaſe, earn from one to two guineas, and ſome three a-week; beſides which, they all have a convenient houſe, plenty of fire-coal, and a ſmall

plot

plot of ground for a garden, which they cultivate with ſingular neatneſs.

The iron imported from Sweden, America, &c. is ſaid, by the ſingular addreſs of the great founder of theſe works, to come to Swalwell free of water and other corporation dues, as Mr. Crowley was not a freemen, and ſo was liable to pay them. However that be, we find in the common-council books of Newcaſtle, dated July 23, 1694, mention made of Crowley's factory, in Swalwell; in which Mr Ambroſe Crowley agreed to pay the corporation of Newcaſtle ſix pounds thirteen ſhillings and fourpence per annum, for his exemption from toll, and other privileges, concerning the management of that factory.

The goods manufactured at Swalwell are conveyed to London in ſhips belonging to the company, and are depoſited in large warehouſes, from whence thoſe for the uſe of government are conveyed to the dock-yards, others to the Eaſt and Weſt-Indies, and to moſt parts of the world. The time of war is the golden ſeaſon to this opulent manufactory; and in no former war did the proprietors reap more advantage than in that now terminated. During the late years of real, and not a little of artificial ſcarcity, the proprietors allowed their ſervants rye meal, flour, &c. at a very reduced price.

We have been the more full in our account of this important manufactory, as it is ingenious in the contrivance of all its parts, highly favoured by its local ſituation for water to drive the huge wheels, and abundance of cheap coals to ſupply their numerous furnaces.

Nearly oppoſite to Swalwell, is the pleaſant village of Lemmington. It is ſituated in a peninſula, the

the river from Newburn taking firſt a direction ſouth-eaſt, returns again, after paſſing Stella, nearly north-weſt, forming the peninſula we now mentioned. It is here that laſt year was erected a foundery for caſt-iron, and extracting it, by the action of fire, in large furnaces, from iron-ſtone.

The company are of the firſt reſpectability, and it is ſaid have embarked in the enterprize above an hundred thouſand pounds. To ſecure at all times a ſufficient quantity of iron-ſtone, they have not only engaged ground in various parts which abound with it, but they have alſo purchaſed, it is ſaid, an eſtate in Yorkſhire, near Robinhood's Bay, which contains vaſt quantities of iron-ſtone of the very beſt quality, from which they expect to extract iron and ſteel perfectly malleable and ductile; ſo as not only to ſerve all the iron forges and manufactories in that valuable metal at Swalwell, New Greenwich, and all others on the river, but to export large quantities.

It is ſaid that the proprietors intend, upon the plan of the Carron manufactory, to extend theirs to every branch of hammered work, from an anchor to a needle, as they find the ſmelted metal favourable for their undertaking. Nor would we at all wonder if gentlemen, ſuch as Meſſrs Fiſhwick, Gibſon, &c. of ſo much profeſſional knowledge, ſhould ſucceed in a deſign ſo extenſive, and we hope ſo beneficial to themſelves and the country at large. Every circumſtance is inviting, and the ſituation is particularly friendly to ſucceſs. Abundance of coal, a fine navigable river, the Tyne, waſhing the walls of the works, which not only ſerves now at ſmall expence to tranſport their ſtone from York-

ſhire in a ſloop, but will, at an eaſy rate carry their manufactured goods to London. And ſhould the intended canal (which with joy we hear is in agitation afreſh ſince the peace) be effected, Lemmington may prove one of the moſt lively and wealthy manufacturing towns in the north of England.

So many works of great extent and magnitude, in and about Newcaſtle, require machinery ſuitable to their operation whether above, or below the ground. Accordingly, we find many founderies for caſt-iron, and large manufactories for working iron with the hammer.

At Skinner-burn, below the infirmary, there is a large foundery for caſt-iron, principally for ſupplying the collieries with machines, for carrying off the water from the ſeams of coal, and for other important purpoſes in this principal branch of commerce. Cannon of large calibre are caſt here for the uſe of government, and for exportation. This is the property of Meſſrs Whinfield and Co.

There is alſo another foundery for caſt-iron in the Cloſe, belonging to Meſſrs Cookſon and Co.

In Sandgate, at the Swerle, is a foundery for caſt-iron carried on by Meſſrs Moffat and Co. where much buſineſs is done in that branch.

At Buſy Cottage, about a mile up the Ouſe-bourn, is a large manufactory for caſt and hammered iron, the property of Mr. Malin Sorſbie.

In Pipewellgate are two extenſive founderies of the ſame kind, where cylinders, wheels. &c. and numerous other branches of this kind of manufacture are done; the weſternmoſt the property of Mr. Whinfield; that towards the bridge belongs to Mr. Harriſon.

Further

Further down, at New Greenwich, there is a very large and extenſive caſt-iron work, where great quantities of cannon, mortars, balls, &c. for the uſe of government are made, employing a great number of hands, the property of Meſſrs Hawkes and Co. Another of the ſame kind, further down the ſame ſide of the river, is the property of Mr. Hawkes, junior.

The manufactories for hammered iron, in Newcaſtle and its vicinity, are numerous, and ſome of them extenſive. Meſſrs Hawkes and Co. employ, next to that in Swalwell the greateſt number of hands.

Numerous workmen are employed in fabricating with the hammer, large anchors, chains, bolts, ſpades, picks, &c. at the head of the Bottle-bank, Gateſhead, by Meſſrs Hawkes and Co. in Hillgate by Mr William Row, at the Milkmarket, in Sandgate, and at the Ouſeb-urn bridge.

The plenty and cheapneſs of ſmall coal, by which the furnaces are almoſt conſtantly kept heated, greatly contribute to enable the numerous manufacturers to carry on their various branches with expedition, and to great advantage, both to themſelves and to the public. Should the new and extenſive manufactory at Lemmington for extracting malleable iron from iron-ore ſucceed, and ſupply the numerous forges on the Tyne, vaſt ſums of money will be ſaved, which are laid out on bar iron from America, Sweden, Ruſſia, and other foreign countries.

Lead Works.

The ſubſequent account of the lead exported from the port of Tyne, on an average of ſix years, was taken by the comptroller of this port, the accuracy of which may be depended upon.

To

To London, and other ports of Great-Britain, 76,800 pieces
To foreign parts 17,520

Total . . . . 94,300 pieces.
Weight, at 1 cwt. 2 qrs. per piece, 7,072 tons and a half.

This valuable mineral, lead, is, by the ingenuity of the people here converted into many uſeful branches of trade. Weſt from Skinner-bourn is a manufactory for making white-lead, one of the moſt extenſive north of London; and where there was not a ſingle hut before the commencement of this rich and advantageous manufactory, by the conſtant acceſſion of new buildings, it has now the appearance of a conſiderable village. Here, by chemical proceſs, vaſt quantities of lead are converted into white and red lead, ſo uſeful in forming the baſis of paints. Theſe are moſtly ſent to London, to the great emolument of the proprietors, Meſſrs. Walkers, Ward, and Co.

At the firſt eſtabliſhment of this manufactory it was ſaid, "that the lead of the weſt country was too ſoft;" but the London manufacturers ſay, that "it cannot be too ſoft." Would it not be a curious ſubject of enquiry, whether policy or a real want of knowledge in that buſineſs, dictated the aſſertion?---Indeed, ſuch an enquiry might with eaſe be transferred to many others. It might be given as a reaſon for the philoſophic inveſtigator of manufactories being ſo frequently inſulted with "No admittance here without leave," that he might aſk queſtions which would diſcover---not the knowledge, but---the ignorance of the proprietors.

The proceſs of making white lead, as it is little known, we ſhall give a ſlight ſketch of from the memorandums of a friend who viſited the works of Meſſrs. Lancaſter, Bax, and Ellil, in Southwark, about ſix years ago.

From

From theſe remarks we are led to believe, that the firſt operation is melting the blue lead into a caſe or mould, nearly two feet long and five inches broad, and ſo thin, that it may with convenience roll into a round roll, and thus to be placed in the pot for the blue beds: near a jill of vinegar is poured into each of theſe pots; they are made in the middle with a projection, on which the roll is put, and about it another piece of ſheet lead, near one foot acroſs; upon this boards are placed, above them horſe-dung, and this is continued, layer upon layer, until they have arrived at the deſtined height. (We believe a patent has been obtained by one of the companies, merely for mixing oak bark with the dung!) Theſe ſtrata continue covered for about three months, when the boards, on being removed, have the appearance of a ſtrong corroſion, from the acid ſteams that have eſcaped the lead: by this time a thick white-coloured incruſtation has taken place, when the pieces are thrown together into a large receiver full of water, and about two-thirds up, a partition running acroſs, with holes in it: a workman then, with a large pole, and a ſtrong head annexed to it, ſtirs, beats, and breaks them; by which means the corroded lead divides and falls to the bottom of the receiver*: the blue lead is taken away, melted, and undergoes again the above operations. The white ſubſtance is now taken to the mill and ground in the rough; it is done in a horſe-mill, with four horſes: (here it is done with a fire-engine):

* The introduction of water here, was a very great improvement for the health of the people employed in the works: formerly it was done dry, and the lead duſt got upon their lungs.—From the peculiar deleterioufneſs of this metal, in any ſhape, few then lived beyond forty.

engine) the immediate act of grinding is conducted by eight large peſtle-like pieces of metal rolling in mortars, (as the ſnuff is ground at the Leazes).

Meſſrs Lancaſter and Co. ſend moſt of their manufactured lead to the Weſt Indies, and their erection coſt about 15,000l.

The blue beds are ſo called from the lead being here put in its blue ſtate. It was dried, not in ſtoves, but as the colour-manufacturers dry their goods in this town: the balls or lumps are placed on ſhelves, open to the action of the air; in which ſtate it was worth about eightpence per pound wholeſale.

Theſe gentlemen brewed their own vinegar; and were particular in their declaration, that "the ſofter the lead the better."

At the weſt end of the buildings of the white lead manufactory, is a round tower, conſiſting of ſeveral ſtories, and two hundred feet in height. Strangers in paſſing along the bridge, in viewing this lofty column are puzzled in their conjectures for what purpoſe it has been erected; and probably content themſelves with thinking that it has been built in commemoration of ſome particular perſon, or of ſome ſingular event. But a commercial people, like thoſe of Newcaſtle, know better how to lay out their money, and on ſomething that will bring it in again with advantage.

This tower is erected for the purpoſe of making lead ſhot, which, by falling from ſuch a height, forms it perfectly globular. As it was built at the expence of many hundred pounds, and anſwers the expectations of the proprietors, an excluſive patent was obtained, prohibiting a ſimilar erection, for a limited time. But patent rights are often eluded; and

and ſo was the caſe here; for it is ſaid that another company have, at the twentieth part of the expence, found a mode of caſting ſhot equally good, if not by a ſimilar erection, yet, which anſwers equally well, by dropping the melted ſhot down an old coal pit, fitted up for the purpoſe. To decide whether this is an infringement on the primary invention, may afford ſome amuſement, along with ſome guineas, to the gentlemen of the long robe.

But although this be the moſt extenſive, it is not the only lead work in or about Newcaſtle. Meſſrs Hind and Co. have one of a ſimilar kind on Ouſebourn; another belongs to Meſſ. Hopper and Monkhouſe; a third to Chriſtopher Blackett, eſq. a fourth to John Eraſmus Blackett, eſq. a fifth to Meſſrs Eaſterby, Hall, and Co. at Bill-quay. At all theſe, moſtly new erections, much buſineſs is done, where, beſides white and red lead being made, litharge, (that holds a diſtinguiſhed place in the Materia Medica), is alſo prepared.

Dry Colour Manufactories.

There are ſeveral of theſe in Newcaſtle and on the banks of the Tyne. At Paradiſe, Meſſrs Gibſon and Co. have a very extenſive one: there is one at Ouſebourn, where very large quantities of colours are manufactured both for home conſumption and for exportation.

The numerous colour-works are the property of Meſſrs Walkers, Ward, and Co. of Meſſrs Hind and James, of Campbell and Gibſon, and of Meſſ. Brown and Co.

Refineries.

Refineries.

There are two of theſe, for extracting gold and ſilver from the cinders uſed in furnaces of the workers in theſe precious metals, and alſo from their old crucibles; one at the Felling-ſhore, the property of Mr. Crawford; and another at Bill-quay, the property of Meſſrs. Surtees and Hall.

Theſe rude materials are purchaſed in England, Holland, and France. It is remarkable, (ſays St. Fond) that the cinders brought for this purpoſe from France are ſuch as have already paſſed through the hands of the refiners in that country, who uſe only waſhing, and other imperfect proceſſes, by which means they recover only part of the gold and ſilver. In Newcaſtle, however, he adds, the abundance and cheapneſs of coal enables the manufacturer to extract gold and ſilver by fuſion, in reverberating furnaces, which are very ingeniouſly contrived. In that of Mr. D. Crawford, ſays the ſame ingenious philoſopher, I ſaw, with much intereſt, other furnaces for the revivification of the calx of lead and copper. He procures the materials for this operation from different parts of Europe, by purchaſing old lead pipes, which have remained long under ground, copper which has been corroded, and old cannon.

Bars of gold and ſilver, of great weight and value, have been extracted by theſe powerful furnaces, from the ſweepings of ſilver and gold manufactories in Holland, France, Flanders, and Germany.

Glaſs Works.

Theſe, next to the coal-trade, are the richeſt branch of the trade of Newcaſtle; as the duty to government,

ment, from glaſs alone, is reckoned at 140,000l. per annum. As this branch is of ſuch conſequence, not only to this town, but to all nations, we requeſt the permiſſion of our readers to lay before them a few obſervations on this ingenious invention.

This great proof of human ingenuity ſeems to have been imperfectly known to the ancients. It is curious to obſerve, in ſacred writ, that upon conſtructing the various apparatus of the tabernacle, the laver, for different ablutions, was formed of the brazen looking-glaſſes preſented by the Iſraelitiſh women for this ſacred purpoſe. By this it is evident, that, as they brought theſe with them from Egypt, there were no other mirrors uſed at that remote period, even in Egypt, the nurſery of arts to the reſt of the world.

Glaſs takes the ſmootheſt poliſh of all other ſurfaces; of it are formed the pureſt drinking glaſſes, and, above all, it is the moſt tranſparent medium by which light is conveyed into our dwellings.

Glaſs-makers are ſaid to have been firſt brought from France into England A. D. 674, on the building of the new abbey of Wearmouth, a few miles diſtant from the river Tyne. The finer kinds of glaſſes were firſt manufactured at Crutched-Friars, in London, A. D. 1557. The fine flint-glaſs, little inferior to that of Venice, was firſt made in the Savoy-houſe, in the Strand, London; and the firſt glaſs-plates, for looking-glaſſes and coach-glaſſes, were made at Lambeth, by the encouragement of the duke of Buckingham, in the year 1673.

It ſeems probable, that glaſs-works were firſt erected upon the river Tyne about the year 1619, where they were eſtabliſhed by Sir Robert Manſell,

knight, vice-admiral of England. The cheapneſs of coal at this place is given as the reaſon that chiefly induced him to erect them at ſo great a diſtance from London.

The furious bigotry of Philip king of Spain in the 15th century, by which, and by the bloody perſecution of the inhuman duke of Alva, the Netherlands were bereft of their moſt virtuous and opulent citizens; and multitudes of the moſt ingenious artiſts of theſe rich and flouriſhing countries fled to other dominions, carrying their curious and uſeful arts along with them. Queen Elizabeth fully knew how to appreciate ſuch a valuable acquiſition, and not only afforded theſe virtuous exiles an aſylum in her dominions, but gave them every kind of encouragement which could render them comfortable and happy.

It is remarkable that the three leading names of theſe ingenious glaſsmakers are the Henzels, Tyzacks, and Titeroys, the latter of which is now extinct; but the Henzels and Tyzacks ſtill continue to preſide over the working part. "Indeed, ſays Mr. Brand, they will admit none of any other name to work with them." Very few of the Tyzacks are now left, and almoſt every name may be found in theſe works at preſent.

In the regiſter of baptiſms of All-Saints, to which pariſh they belong, we frequently find them giving their children the name of Peregrine; reminding them that they were wanderers by violence from their native land, and that now they ſojourned in a ſtrange country.

What is called the Muſhroom, the ſite of the firſt glaſs-houſes in Newcaſtle, is (by the records of the common-

common-council books) ſaid to be a parcel of ground at St. Lawrence Shore, containing in length 150 yards, or thereabouts, and 90 yards in breadth, at the yearly rent of ten pounds, and the toll of the two glaſs-houſes, now built on the ſaid ſhore be alſo let unto ſaid Edward Harris for the term of twenty-one years at the yearly rent of fifteen pounds for each glaſs-houſe. A. D. 1646.

September 21, 1679, there was an order of common-council to grant a leaſe to Jacob Henzel, William Tizake, and Daniel Tittery, of the weſtern glaſs-houſes, at a fixed rent, and that ſaid parties bind themſelves to furniſh the glaziers and inhabitants with glaſs at a certain rate.

A. D. 1710 mention occurs of a glaſs-houſe at the Cloſe-gate.

A. D. 1737. The following additional glaſs-houſes are mentioned in the common-council books. "Broad glaſs-houſes, called Howden and South Shields glaſs-houſes; the bottle-houſes, called Cloſe-gate bottle-houſes, Weſtern bottle-houſe, St. Lawrence bottle-houſe, Bill-quay bottle-houſe; and the flint glaſs-houſe at the Cloſe-gate."

There appears to have been conſtantly and fully employed on the river Tyne A. D. 1772, ſixteen large glaſs-works, viz. one for plate glaſs; three crown glaſs-houſes; five for broad or common window-glaſs; two for white or flint glaſs, and five bottle-houſes. The glaſs manufactured in theſe is ſent to moſt parts of the world.

Since their firſt inſtitution, theſe glaſs-works have been wonderfully improved. Viewing the glaſs-ware-houſes in the Cloſe, the eye is ſtruck in beholding vaſt piles and arrangements of beautiful vaſes of

cryſtal, or white glaſs, luſtres, &c. The artiſts who have ſerved their apprenticeſhips at this buſineſs, earn two or three guineas a week with eaſe.

Theſe ingenious inventions, ſo numerous on the Tyne, from Lemmington to South Shields, ſtrike all ſtrangers; and certainly the expeditious operations of theſe artiſts are amongſt the moſt intereſting objects to be ſeen at Newcaſtle.

"We ſaw," ſays the French philoſopher St. Fond, "ſeveral glaſs-houſes at this flouriſhing place, where window glaſs, bottles, decanters, drinking glaſſes, &c. are made. All theſe manufactories, though eſtabliſhed in buildings of a mean appearance, are managed with a ſimplicity and economy which cannot be too much praiſed.

"This modeſt ſimplicity is of great advantage to the country. It encourages active and induſtrious men to embark in trade, who would otherwiſe be unwilling to form large eſtabliſhments, being alarmed by the expences, which extenſive works require, when conſtructed on a magnificent ſcale.

"It is a taſte for pomp and grandeur which almoſt always ruins the manufactures of France, and prevents theſe new ones which we want from being eſtabliſhed. Men are afraid to involve themſelves in ruinous expences for mere warehouſes and workſhops.

"It muſt be acknowledged that the Engliſh and Dutch, are more prudent, and exhibit examples this way, which we ought to imitate. Splendid and expenſive architecture is the bane of eſtabliſhments of this kind." Thus St. Fond expreſſes his ſentiments on the Newcaſtle glaſs-houſes with which we ſhall conclude this branch of trade.

We

We have only to add, that theſe extenſive works are carried on by Sir Matthew White Ridley and Co. Catherine Henzell and Co. J. Shortridge and Co. Cookſon and Co. ſeveral houſes are the property of this laſt opulent and long eſtabliſhed company.

Potteries.

Staffordſhire has long carried the palm for the manufacture of the moſt beautiful pottery ware, ſome of which arrive near the perfection of china, or porcelain. In the hiſtory of the uſeful arts, that of the potter ſeems of great antiquity; and its practice is probably coeval with the exiſtence of mankind.

A very extenſive manufactory of pottery-ware is carried on by Mr. Warburton, at Warburton-place, two miles ſouth of Newcaſtle; where large orders to moſt parts of the kingdom are executed, and foreign countries ſupplied with every kind of earthenware.

Meſſrs. Head and Dalton carry on a ſimilar concern, and Meſſrs. Addiſon and Falconar have another, at Skinner-bourn.

Mr Yelloley has an extenſive manufactory of this kind at the Ouſe-bourn, where vaſt quantities of every ſpecies of pottery-work is executed.

Another pottery, ſimilar to thoſe mentioned, is carried on by Mr. C. F. Jackſon.

Roperies.

In a trading-town, like Newcaſtle, which employs ſo much ſhipping, ropes, cordage, twine, &c. form a material article of trade.

A ropery, for manufacturing cables for ſhips, cordage, &c. is carried on by Mr. John Walker, another by

by Mr. Linskill, a third by Mr. Robert Green; and a large one, at Howdon, by Messrs. Hurry. But that which is of the greatest extent, and does most business in rope-making, is the patent steam-ropery, by the Messrs. Chapmans, at Willington, a mile above Howdon-dock.

Another ropery belongs to Mr. Thomas Smith.

Anthony Hood, esq. and Co. have a large ropery, where the cords for forming the cables are spun upon the new plan, much stronger and smoother than those by hand.

Another ropery belongs to Mr Henry Cramlington, and another to Messrs. Atkinson and Rutherford.

There are also a number of manufacturers of shop-cord, twine, &c. &c.

There are several sailcloth-manufactories, belonging to Messrs. Kidds, Harrison, &c. in this town.

Grindstones.

Grindstone-quarries are numerous in the Fell, on the south-side of the Tyne. Vast quantities are made from these quarries: and although Swalwell great iron-works employ very many for sharpening the spades, hoes, pick-hacks, &c. that are intended for exportation, yet these bear a small proportion to the quantity of grindstones that are shipped for Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and other foreign countries.—— Stones of a soft texture, for the furnaces in Sweden, are also exported from the Felling-shore, &c. Insomuch that "a Newcastle grindstone being found all over the world," is a proverbial expression.

Whale-Oil Manufactories.

Of late years this lucrative branch has been on the decline; though several ships, for some seasons past, have

have returned full. The produce of the blubber, fins, and ſpermaceti, of this huge aquatic animal, by the induſtry of the manufacturers in Newcaſtle, are converted to many valuable purpoſes, and were formerly more advantageous to the adventurers in this branch of traffic than at preſent. And although the operation is attended with a very rancid ſmell, yet the advantage attending the buſineſs has been conſiderable to the people employed.

Coal-Tar.

Extracting of tar from coal, for overlaying ſhips, in place of the Norway and other foreign tar, had been in ſpeculation for many years in this country; yet, we believe, the preſent ingenious Lord Dundonald was the firſt who offered it to the public as an article of traffic. It is now very much in uſe, eſpecially for ſhips deſtined for long voyages in warm climates; where the remora, or ſucking-fiſh, by ſtriking the ſhip, often proves fatal to both men and veſſels. It is ſaid, that ſhips payed over with coal-tar are rendered proof againſt the perforations of that animal.

A diſtillery for coal-tar, at St. Peter's quay, is conducted by Meſſrs. Row, Humble, and King.

At the ſame place is a manufactory for lamp-black, belonging to Meſſrs. Row, Oxley, and Barras.

Copperas.

On both ſides of the river are large manufactories for copperas. The pyrites, or braſſes, which are hurtful to the ſale of the coals, are carefully ſeparated from them, and, by a proceſs, tedious here to detail, the copperas is formed; and the great quantities of the pyrites, and cheapneſs of the ſmall coal, are

are particularly favourable for making vaſt quantities of this article in our neighbourhood.

Refined copperas is made chiefly at Walker, by by Meſſrs. George Forſter and Co. This article was brought to its preſent perfection by the late Mr. Tho. Barnes, of that place; a gentleman, whoſe ingenuity, as a viewer, is well known by many of the firſt families in this and the neighbouring counties; under whoſe direction the inclined plane at Benwell, and many other works of public utility, were executed.

Sal Ammoniac.

Is likewiſe made in this place, for various purpoſes, beſides forming a part of the materia medica.

Soda.

Lord Dundonald claims, if not the invention, at leaſt the bringing to perfection, of Soda. This excellent compoſition has had the atteſtation of the principal dyers, fullers, bleachers, &c. in Newcaſtle and vicinity, as ſerving excellent purpoſes in the various branches of their uſeful and neceſſary profeſſions.

Glue,

So neceſſary in joinery and other works, is made here in ſmall quantities, and that of a very inferior quality, owing to the imperfect ſtate of the knowledge of its ingredients in this place.

Of the mode of manufacturing this article we are favoured with a few hints from the ſame intelligent friend who communicated to us the ſketch of the white-lead manufacture.

The reaſon he aſſigns for the Newcaſtle glue being ſo offenſive to the ſmell, and ſo ſoon loſing its adheſiveneſs, is, that it is made principally of the gelatinous

nous ſubſtance of bones. On this account, the manufactories here exhibit the appearance almoſt of charnel-houſes, being equally offenſive to the ſight and the ſmell. The London manufacturers allow nothing of that kind to enter into the compoſition of this article. The parings of hides, bought up in London, or imported from foreign, and the pelts obtained from furriers, are the materials from which the London glue is extracted. Theſe, after being as well freed from greaſe as poſſible, in that ſtate, are diſſolved, by boiling water, in a large braſs caldron, and there more completely cleanſed, after being diſſolved, by alum or lime thrown into the kettle: during boiling it is well ſkimmed, until it becomes clear, and of a light brown colour. When it is thought to be ſtrong enough, (which is known either by the length of time a certain quantity of water and ſkins have boiled, or by its appearance during ebullition), it is poured into trays, or veſſels of about ſix feet long, one broad, and two deep, till cold; when it is ſet, *i. e.* aſſumes a jelly-like form. It is then cut out of the trays by a ſpade, and laid (by women) on a table; where it is cut with an inſtrument, not unlike a bow, having a braſs wire as its ſtring. Each of the maſſes cut out by the ſpade is ſeparated, by this inſtrument, into three pieces. When the women, by miſtake, cut only two, that which is double the ſize is called a *biſhop*, and doomed to be melted over again.

All glue that has got froſt, or looks thick and black, may be melted over again and refined; but it is generally put into the kettle, after what is in it has been refined and thus melted over again, with a ſufficient quantity of the other to overcome every injury it may have ſuſtained.

Moveable ſheds, of about four feet ſquare, are erected in the yard or field of each glue-maker's work-ſhops; where the cakes, after being cut as before deſcribed, are dried; there is nothing that is noxious or diſagreeable in any part of the proceſs.

A great deal made in the neighbourhood of Leeds, is alſo ſold under the name of London glue.

Quantities of this is exported; as alſo moſt of the glue made here.

Lintſeed and Rapeſeed Mills.

There are ſeveral in and about Newcaſtle. Theſe oils, when duly prepared, ſerve many valuable purpoſes, as in mixing of white lead and other paints; while the cakes from which the oil has been preſſed, by great force, are uſed as food for domeſtic cattle, and feed them in a wonderful manner. Theſe oils are exported to London, and even to foreign parts.

Soaperies.

Of this valuable branch of manufacture, ſo conducive to cleanlineſs, and, of conſequence, to health, great quantities are made in Newcaſtle.

A large and extenſive ſoap-manufactory is carried on by Meſſrs. Doubleday and Eaſterby, in the Cloſe; who export great quantities.

Another, upon a very ſmall ſcale, is carried on by Mr. W. Cathey, in Sandgate.

The many laborious and dirty branches of buſineſs in Newcaſtle, on the river, above and below ground, render the conſtant uſe of ſoap indiſpenſably neceſſary.

Candles.

Candles.

This ſubſtitute for natural light is uſed in all nations, and in none more than in the northern parts of England. But in Newcaſtle and its numerous works candles are uſed in vaſt quantities. *Above ground*, in common with other places, and *below ground*, in a manner peculiar to the works, which, lying ſix or ſeven hundred feet below the ſurface, were never viſited by a ſingle ray of the ſun. Thouſands of men working in theſe ſubterraneous regions, black and dark, need greatly the aid of candle-light. Of conſequence, we may ſuppoſe that many candles are made here for this particular purpoſe. But thoſe uſed in the coal-works are extremely ſmall, thirty or forty in the pound, called by colliers, *pit-winkies*.--- They are afraid of uſing larger, from the danger of igniting the inflammable air, which is ſometimes the caſe, and is attended with dreadful conſequences.--- As a precaution, both viewers and pitmen, in paſſing through the waſtes, are ſupplied with ſteel-mills, which, by their motion, ſtrike light by flint, and is not ſo dangerous.

There are many candle-manufactories in the Cloſe, Denton-chare, Pilgrim-ſtreet, Low Bridge, Sandgate, &c. The gentlemen of the exciſe inform us, that as the conſumpt of this neceſſary in life is ſo great in Newcaſtle, inſtead of exporting, many candles are brought here from other neighbouring places.

Sugar Refineries.

In the Cloſe is a ſugar-houſe which was erected by the late Alderman Foſter and Co. and is ſtill carried on with great ſucceſs by Meſirs Rankins and Walton.

There is another extenſive one at the head of the Broad-chare, by Meſſrs Rudman, Clarke, and Co.

Sugars are now brought raw from the Weſt Indies by Graham Clarke, eſq. and boiled and refined in Newcaſtle. Why might not this article be imported by other men of property?

Salt Works.

This neceſſary of life is not manufactured at Newcaſtle, the Tyne here not being ſufficiently impregnated with ſaline particles; but at Shields large quantities are made, though not ſo much as formerly.

The moſt conſiderable at preſent are Mr. Joſeph Richardſon, South Shields, Mr. Edward Harvey, do. Mr. Fairles, do. and one at Howden.

But the moſt extraordinary ſalt work is that which is at Birtley, about ſix miles from the Tyne, and nigh as far from the Wear. It is a ſalt ſpring in a deep coal-pit ſtrongly impregnated with ſaline particles; and from which water great quantities of ſalt are made, and exported from Sunderland. This is certainly uncommon, and may be accounted a great local natural curioſity, as Birtley ſtands at a great elevation above the level of the Tyne and the Wear, and yet the waters of this ſpring are ſoft as the ocean itſelf, and naturaliſts ſay it is more ſo than the ſea off Tynemouth. Man knows not all the ſecrets of nature----how neceſſary then for him to diſcover them!

Theſe ſalt works at Shields, Hartley, &c. have been much on the decline for years paſt, ſince the uſe of rock ſalt came ſo much in practice. The exciſe duty upon this neceſſary in life being ſo enormous as tenpence or more, on the ſhilling, amounts almoſt to a prohibition on its manufacture, which is a great

great diſcouragement to the fiſhing trade, where cod, and other large fiſhes are cured for tranſportation.

It is recorded, that during the great plague which ſwept away ſome thouſands of perſons, at Newcaſtle, few died who lived near the ſalt works at Shields.

Salmon.

The Tyne has long been famous for this moſt delicious ſpecies of fiſh. Even the prodigious quantities caught at Berwick, are denominated Newcaſtle ſalmon at London, &c. Here are many fiſheries on the Tyne, and in ſome ſeaſons very productive. From Hedwin Streams to Sparhawk, we find fiſheries for ſalmon in ſeveral turns of the river. The fiſh are expoſed for ſale on the Sandhill at the Maiſon Dieu; while the greateſt part are pickled, kitted, and exported, many thouſands in a ſeaſon. But during the late war, the price of this fiſh has been ſo exorbitant, (being from one ſhilling to two ſhillings per pound) that like the unbelieving lord in ſcripture, the people of Newcaſtle *ſee it with their eyes, but do not taſte it.*

Corks.

Theſe are made in great quantities here. The moſt conſiderable of the manufactories are Mr. Richard Graham, in the Side, &c.

The towns and villages, for ſixty miles round, are ſupplied with corks, bungs, &c. from this town.

Bricks and Tiles.

The houſes and the numerous manufactories in England are built of bricks, and covered, for the moſt part, with tiles. This occaſions large quantities of both to be made. As the grounds about Newcaſtle abound

in

in clay on the ſurface, and coal below, the manufacture of bricks and tiles is a great article of buſineſs. Of conſequence, vaſt quantities on both ſides of the Tyne, are manufactured, both for home conſumption and exportation, but chiefly to London.

The French philoſopher St. Fond, whom we have ſo often quoted with pleaſure, ſays, "The beautiful river the Tyne is rendered highly intereſting by the variety of the manufactures carried on upon its banks. The manufacturers of thoſe, however, complain of the almoſt intollerable duties laid by government on theſe neceſſaries for building, which has greatly diſcouraged people of property from embarking in this formerly flouriſhing branch of buſineſs. But how do complainants imagine that the intereſt of nigh five hundred millions of national debt can be paid, but by ſuch taxes, and thoſe on paper, malt, hops, ſalt, &c.?

Boots and Shoes.

Large demands have been made for theſe uſeful articles from America, and the Weſt Indies, which employed many workmen before the war, for making boots and ſhoes in Newcaſtle. It is hoped peace will encreaſe the demand to theſe flouriſhing places of the new world.

Leather Breeches and Gloves.

Theſe articles of dreſs are manufactured in Newcaſtle by Meſſrs Bilton, Brunton, and others. Many gloves are brought from Hexham to Newcaſtle, where, from their cheapneſs, they have a ready market.

Tanners.

Tanners.

There are many of theſe in Newcaſtle, who do much buſineſs both for tanning and currying leather. Alderman Yielder in Low Friar-chare has a large yard for tanning. Meſſrs Hunter, Richardſon, and others carry on this lucrative branch of buſineſs; ſupplying, at the great fair on St. Luke's, many leather-ſellers from diſtant parts. Many moſt eſſential improvements might be made in this buſineſs, which are entirely fruſtrated by legal interference.

Linen Manufactories.

There are a few of theſe in Newcaſtle, where not only plain linen is wrought, but diapers, &c. are manufactured by Mr. Young, Low Friar-chare, and a few other weavers in various parts of the town.

Corn and Flour Mills.

The inhabitants of the flouriſhing town of Newcaſtle amounting, it is ſuppoſed, to near ſeventy thouſand, and the adjacent towns and villages being ſo well peopled, the workmen and labourers, from their hardy employments, on water, above and below ground, require good food, eſpecially bread and fleſh meat. They will have it, they get it, and they deſerve it. The uſeful and hardy keelman has no notion of going on board his keel till his baſket is ſtored with a good joint and a ſubſtantial well baked loaf, generally of the beſt flour. The ſame mode of living is followed by the pitman, waggonmen, &c. They live on the beſt, and no one will deny that they have a right to enjoy it.

This

This creates a vaſt conſumption of flour, which is generally prepared in the houſehold manner.

The number of wind, water, and ſteam-mills, for making flour, rye, oat, and barley-meal, in and about Newcaſtle, from whence the numerous flour-ſhops in town and country are ſupplied, is probably greater than that of any ſingle town in the kingdom.

The windmills above Gateſhead, on the other ſide of the town-moor, and indeed all over the country, are numerous; and, when the wind is favourable, they are all employed.

There are alſo ſeveral ſteam-engines, for grinding corn. Theſe, upon trial, have been found ſo far to ſurpaſs all other kinds, for their wonderful expedition, that they bid fair to ſupplant wind-mills, eſpecially, altogether. For, when the wind ceaſes to blow, (which is often the caſe,) the wind-mill ſtands; and when the drought in ſummer dries up the ſtream, or the froſt, in winter, congeals it, the water-mill is ſtopped. The ſteam-mill goes uninterrupted, by day and night; and is therefore peculiarly adapted to this country, where the coals are eaſily procured.

There are two ſteam-mills for grinding corn, on the Ouſe-bourn, particularly one lately finiſhed, the property of Mr. Beckington, which does a great deal of buſineſs. It was conſtructed by Meſſrs. Baillie and Reay, millwrights and engineers, in Gateſhead. But there is one lately conſtructed by the ſame artiſts, at Willington, adjacent to Mr. Chapman's grand patent ropery, which is alſo worked by ſteam, and is, perhaps, the largeſt and moſt complete of the kind north of the Albion mills, in London. The building ſeven ſtories high, and intended for ſeven pairs of ſtones, four pairs of which are conſtantly going.----

The

The execution done by this ingenious and extenſive piece of machinery, is truly great, as, with eaſe, it can grind forty laſts, or one thouſand ſix hundred bolls of corn, every week! Manufacturing ſuch quantities of flour on the Tyne, certainly prevents much money being ſent from this port to London, Yarmouth, Lynn, and other parts in the ſouth. This large manufactory is the property of Meſſrs. Oxley and Co. and coſt, it is ſaid, above 6,000l.

Hat Manufactories.

Of this ingenious buſineſs there are ſeveral in Newcaſtle and Gateſhead.

One belongs to Mr. John Clennell, in the Side; who lately attempted to diſplay the origin, progreſs, and preſent ſtate of that manufacture, aſſiſted by a moſt ingenious and intelligent friend.* The reſt as follows, viz. Mr. W. Rogers, in the Fleſh-market; Mr. Andrew Kay, on the Quayſide; Mr. Smith, in Dean-ſtreet; Mr Jonathan Collings, and Mr. William Thompſon, in Gateſhead; and ſome others.

Of retail hatters, not being manufacturers, there are about thirty.

Spinning Manufactory and Flax Mill.

There is an extenſive ſpinning-factory at Ouſebourn; but this noble ſtructure, which is ſaid to have coſt 15,000l. is at preſent unemployed.

We hope, however, that both the flax-mill there, and this large manufactory for ſpinning, will ſoon again be at work.

* Mr. William Nicholſon, of London. Vide his Journal of Natural Philoſophy and Chemiſtry, vol. ii. & iii. and the Supplement to the Encyclopedia Britannica, article Hat-making.

Breweries.

The breweries in Newcaſtle and vicinity, are numerous, and ſeveral of them do much buſineſs, we ſhall, however, only mention a few of the moſt reſpectable.

At Skinner-burn is a large one, the property of Meſſrs Potter, Langhorn, and Co.

Nigh Pilgrim-ſtreet-gate is another extenſive one belonging to John Graham Clarke, eſq.

Another in Sandgate, called the Tyne Brewery, the property of Meſſrs. Bell, Brown, Reay, and Co.

Another, which for years has brewed vaſt quantities of beer, is on the Quay-ſide, in the Cuſtom-houſe entry, the property of Meſſrs Burdon and Rayne.

Another in the next entry, is the property of Meſſrs Row and Richardſon, where great quantities of beer and porter are brewed.

Another belongs to R. and R. S. Richardſon.

Another to Mr M. Plummer.

Another, in the Cloſe, the property of Meſſrs Clapham and Co.

In the vicinity of Newcaſtle, at Sandiford, is a very large brewery, and of long ſtanding, the property of Mr. Naiters.

In Gateſhed, is an extenſive one, the property of Meſſrs Barras and Co.

But one of the largeſt in the north is in Oakwellgate the property of Mr. M'Leod and Sons. Here are brewed great quantities of porter and beer. Mr. M'Leod has lately erected a ſteam engine in his brewery, by which malt and grain in large quantities are ground. It was erected by Meſſrs Baillie and Reay, engineers.

We

Beſides theſe large and extenſive breweries, many of the publicans brew for their own conſumption.

We forbear to mention the many breweries at Newburn, Stella, Blagdon, Swalwell, Shields, &c. as the detail would too much ſwell our work.

Having taken a general view of the manufactures and trade of this town, as far as our limits will admit, we will now cloſe this ſubject with a few obſervations on the national importance of exhibiting the proceſs of manufactures.

As the manufactures of this country are the principal ſource of its great wealth and political importance, it cannot but afford matter of reaſonable ſurprize, that ſo little has hitherto been aſcertained and publiſhed relative to the origin, progreſs, and extent of their ſeveral branches. We have, in fact, ſeen no attempt made towards digeſting a compleat treatiſe, or even compiling a ſtock of materials on this ſubject. Indeed, ſcience among manufacturers has ſcarce yet reared her laurel'd head, and thoſe who poſſeſs a practical knowledge of any manufacture, can hardly yet be expected to write as from "the ſoft receſſes of retirement, or under the ſhade of academic bowers." Improvement muſt have forerunners in the march of diſcovery. As yet few facts are brought into the field of public inveſtigation; but the improvement of a manufacture certainly depends on its publicity.

From the firſt appearance of manufacturing ſcience to the preſent dawn of diſcovery, what unavailing toil has *myſtery* produced! what heart-appalling accidents have *jealouſy* and *prejudice* been the parents of! but, on the other hand, what improvement has *liberal communication* effected! An earneſtneſs to com-

municate ought therefore to ſtand amongſt the moſt prominent principles of an enlightened, benevolent underſtanding! The progreſs from infancy to maturity in manufactures is too frequently, like the ſtone of Syſiphus, laboured with an inceſſant and almoſt hopeleſs continuity of effort. It is much to be regretted, that artiſts in general are ſo tenacious of their technical ſecrets, that notwithſtanding the advantages they would mutually derive from reciprocal communication, they reſerve to themſelves, in the cloſeſt manner, any diſcoveries they may have made; and yet, as it may owe its origin to accident or chance, they are perhaps incapable of improving to the extent it would admit of in the hands of men of ſcience. By this conduct they do themſelves a material injury, whilſt by it they loudly proclaim their own want of genius, and as openly acknowledge their ignorance of the real principles of ſcience in general; for if we conſider the rapid progreſs that has been made of late years in every department of uſeful and practical knowledge, we muſt attribute it entirely to thoſe liberal communications that have been made by men whoſe attention has been more immediately directed to the promotion and improvement of every thing valuable to the public at large, rather than to their own private emolument. Dr Johnſon in the 201ſt number of his Rambler, has introduced an obſervation of Mr. Boyle's, quite in point to the preſent ſubject, that "the excellency of manufactures, and the facility of labour, would be much promoted if the various expedients and contrivances which lie concealed in private hands, were by reciprocal communications made generally known; for there are few operations that are not performed by one or another with

ſome

ſome peculiar advantages, which, though ſingly of little importance, would by conjunction and concurrence open new inlets to knowledge, and give new powers to diligence."

Having thus given a general detail of the various branches of trade, peculiar to this commercial town, we ſhall now ſhortly ſtate its exports and imports.

EXPORTS.

The firſt of all others is the article Coal. We have been ample in our deſcription of this article; and if we may ſeem too copious in our detail, the magnitude and importance of the ſubject are our apology.

This valuable ſpecies of fuel, like its powerful flame diſpelling the ſmoke, ſoon drove away the clouds of ignorance and of prejudice againſt its utility. Of conſequence it became an article of commerce at an early period. But it was not until after the grand revolution anno. 1688, and principally after the union between England and Scotland, that the coal-trade from Newcaſtle acquired a ſtate of permanency and gradual improvement.

About the beginning of the eighteenth century, no leſs than 600 veſſels of 80 chaldrons (10 keels) each, were employed in the coal-trade; a number, which was eſtimated to employ 4,500 ſeamen. From 1704 to 1710, there were exported every year, on an average, from the port of Newcaſtle 178,143 chaldrons, which at about from eight to fifteen, make near 334,018 chaldrons, London meaſure. Between that period and the year 1776 the exportation of coals increaſed to 380,000 Newcaſtle chaldrons.

But

But ſince, of late years, eight new great collieries on the Tyne have been won, the export has been prodigiouſly encreaſed; and during the years 1800 and 1801, it experienced an addition of 209,378 chaldrons, or 548,492 tons 5 cwt.

By this it appears that one years encreaſe of the exports was no leſs than 101,980 Newcaſtle chaldrons, and in the whole was 1,105,084 London chaldrons, which, at an average price of fifty ſhillings a chaldron, would produce 2,762,409l. 7s. 8d.

Next to coals, glaſs of all kinds is exported to all nations of the world; lead alſo in great quantities, as we have already mentioned; tallow, of which there is ſhipped 40,000 cwt. annually; butter, 30,000 firkins at about two pounds per firkin; ſalmon, in favourable ſeaſons, many hundreds of kitts; bacons and hams, many thouſands annually; copperas, grindſtones, flagſtones, cinders or coke, caſt and wrought iron, to almoſt all nations, in vaſt quantities, beer, ale, porter, &c. &c.

IMPORTS.

Wine from France, but moſtly from Portugal.
Mountain do. from Malaga.
Raſins, almonds, currants, &c. Malaga.
Timber, ſtaves in great numbers from America.
Raff from Norway, Wyburg.
Iron from Sweden, Ruſſia.
Corn, lately from moſt nations in the north, principally Dantzic, Konninſburgh, &c.
Hemp, flax, from Ruſſia, Riga, Revel.
Brandy and fruits from France.
Smalts from Hamburg.
Pitch, tar, from Sweden, Ruſſia.

The

The ſhipping employed in all theſe various branches of commerce is great. In the year 1772, according to Dr. Hutton's account, the number of ſhips entered in the port of Tyne was as follows :

Ships	810	77,880 coaſtwiſe.
Do.	140	18,650 foreing parts.
Total	954	96,530 tons.

But ſince that period foreign, as well as home trade, has ſo prodigiouſly encreaſed, that in the year 1800, no fewer than 7,969 ſhips were cleared from the Cuſtom-houſe.

The duties to government ariſing from coals alone at five ſhillings per chaldron, has been already mentioned as calculated by Mr. Macnab.

Exciſe duties from glaſs	£.150,000
Do. ale, beer, &c.	80,000
Do. ſoap	82,000
Do. candles	1,000

With other articles of leſs moment.

The revenues of the town are at an average 25,000l. per annum.

GATESHEAD.

GATESHEAD.

IN the preceding part of our work we have given a general account of Newcaſtle; and, before we take a view of the Tyne, from Hadwin Streams to its fall into the German ocean, we ſhall firſt paſs along the Bridge, and give a ſuccinct account of Gateſhead.

As to the etymology of its name, antiquarians are divided in their opinions.

Antiquity holds out a place ſituated on the banks of the Tyne, oppoſite to Newcaſtle, under the name of Gabrocentum; which place Dr. Stukeley, in his *Iter Boreale*, ſuppoſes to be Gateſhead, where the ſecond cohort of the Thracians were garriſoned, as its name in ancient Britiſh language imports, "*Goat's-head;*" I ſuppoſe, ſays he, from the ſign of ſome inn. He adds, a goat's-head ſtill ſtands upon the ſign of the golden-lion, head of the Bottle-bank. This inn is at preſent kept by Mr. Bartram, and ſtill retains the ſign, and is known by the name of the *Goat-Inn*.

The Venerable Bede, in his church-hiſtory, mentions a place, which he calls "*Capræ Caput*," which has been generally ſuppoſed to be Gateſhead;—*quaſi* (as) the Goat's-head, from the Romans having an inn at this place with ſuch a ſign, one of the great military roads ending here, before the emperor Hadrian had erected his bridge over the Tyne, and connected it with the ſtation of Pons Ælii, on the oppoſite banks of that river.

Mr Brand combats this etymology, and will have it to mean Gate's Head, head or termination of the military

military road, which vulgarly is termed *gate*, or road. It is not of any conſequence to attend to the diſquiſitions upon a name, very probably given by accident, upon the Romans, in their encampment, diſcovering a goat's-head, which, as they were ſuperſtitious in their augury, might give the name *Capræ Caput*, *Goat's-head*, to the place.

Gateſhead is, without doubt, a place of great antiquity; and it is the opinion of ſome, that it was a place of ſome ſtanding before Newcaſtle had exiſtence. Indeed it is probable that the Romans, in leading their legions northward, and encamping on the banks of the Tyne, would inſtantly ſet on to build, for their own convenience and ſecurity, till they ſhould conſtruct bridges for tranſporting their troops, which hiſtory informs us they did, both here and alſo at Bywell, where are ſtill to be ſeen the remains of a ſtrong bridge, built by that mighty and ambitious people.

Modern Gateſhead has ſeveral ſtreets; but the principal one runs from the Bridge-end, up the Bottle-bank, and almoſt due ſouth, forming part of the great public road to London. In former times this ſtreet was ſtrongly fortified.

That part of the main ſtreet which is called the Bottle-bank, is very ſteep, and of an aſcent almoſt impaſſable, eſpecially in winter, to carriages, and chiefly the large and ponderous waggons, to and from London, Leeds, &c. To remedy this grievous inconvenience, a new ſtreet was lately formed, running eaſt from the foot of the Bottle-bank, which, making a curve, turns into the main ſtreet at the head of the ſteep aſcent, and, by eaſy winding along, makes it a comparatively convenient paſſage for carriages of the

heavieſt burden. This ſtreet contains ſome well-built houſes, and ſeveral ſhops, on both ſides. And although it has not met with any very general approbation, the old ſtreet being moſtly uſed by people on foot, yet, it is certainly an improvement.

From the head of the Bottle-bank, ſtraight ſouth, the ſtreet is wide and airy; and almoſt every front-houſe has a garden backwards, which is cultivated with great care. Beſides theſe, at the head of the ſtreet, are ſeveral large gardens and nurſeries, belonging ſeparately to Meſſrs. Falla, Joyce, Leonard, &c. with the valuable productions of which both Gateſhead and Newcaſtle are daily ſupplied.

Before we leave the principal ſtreet, we muſt not omit to notice, that here (about the middle of the Bottle-bank) is the "*Gateſhead Circulating Library*," belonging to, and conducted under the direction of, Mr. J. Marſhall, librarian to the Literary and Philoſophical Society of Newcaſtle. Though of recent eſtabliſhment, this library already contains a very good collection of books in every branch of literature, and is much reſorted to, particularly by the principal inhabitants of Gateſhead and its vicinity.

From the Bridge-end, weſtward, is a long, narrow ſtreet, called Pipewellgate, from a fine ſpring, which is conveyed here by a *pipe*, and is very uſeful for the inhabitants. This ſtreet is ſo extremely inconvenient, that two carts meeting cannot paſs each other. Yet here are ſeveral great manufactories; Meſſrs. Harriſon's and Whinfield's caſt-iron, with a colour and a whitening, manufactory.

At the foot of the New-ſtreet is another, called Hillgate, which is very narrow and inconvenient; but, from its vicinity to the river, there are ſeveral manu-

manufactories here alſo, viz. Mr. Row's wrought-iron factory, Meſſrs. Emmerſon and Waugh's ſteam flour-mill, a very large and convenient granary; and, on the right-hand, going eaſtward, is Mr. T. Taylor's large raff-yard, &c.

From what is called the New-ſtreet, eaſtward, we come to another, named Oakwell-gate. Brand ſays, "Mr. Hervey, ſenior, informed me, that he had often heard a traditionary account, that there had been anciently a well, with an oak hanging over it, at the head of the ſtreet called Oakwellgate, in which three ſtrata of pavement have been diſcovered; and that he had often converſed with an old gentleman who remembered when there were ſeveral pants in Gateſhead."

Oakwell-gate is no way diſtinguiſhed; although there are ſome dwellings very pleaſantly ſituated and commodious, ſuch as the rector's, Mr. Hervey's, and particularly Mr. M'Leod's new buildings, fronting his extenſive brewery, which are very elegant.

In the borough of Gateſhead are a few good ſhops, ſeveral commodious inns, &c.

Mr Hawks's wrought-iron manufactory employs many hands; nor ought we to omit mentioning the manufactory in marble carried on by Meſſrs. Iſaac Joblin and ſon. Theſe ingenious artiſts have taken, upon leaſe, the marble quarries in the county of Sutherland, which have attracted the attention of Mr. Pennant, St. Fond, and other curious travellers in Scotland: from which place they have brought and manufactured ſlabs of marble, of a rich variety in appearance, and a very beautiful poliſh.

Here were formerly markets, and very lately a

manufactory for broad woollen cloth; of all which now, " not a wreck is left behind."

This borough contains according to the late ſurvey about 8,597 inhabitants. We noticed on that occaſion, that the enumeration was altogether defective. About two hundred years ago they were accounted to be ſeven thouſand, making about one third of the inhabitants of Newcaſtle. Since that period, however, the proportion in favour of Newcaſtle is very great, ſince there are there at leaſt ſeventy thouſand inhabitants, while there does not ſeem to be an increaſe of a ſingle family in Gateſhead, theſe two centuries paſt. What are the cauſes for ſuch " a falling off" will probably appear when we give an account of the conſtitution and privileges of Gateſhead; but one cauſe, if, of not its decline, at leaſt, of its not increaſing, is its vicinity to the large town of Newcaſtle, which, like Pharaoh's kine, ſwallows up its neighbours.

Gateſhead Church.

At ſo remote a period as A. D. 1080, an account of a church in Gateſhead is mentioned in hiſtory, where Walcher, biſhop of Durham, was murdered; but Mr. Bourne ſays that it ſtood further down than where Gateſhead church is now erected, in a field called Lawleſs-cloſe, and afterwards the Miller's Field.

The date when the preſent church was erected cannot be aſcertained.

A. D. 1291, when there was an eſtimate made of the value of the church-livings in the dioceſe of Durham, the church of Gateſhead is rated 13l. 6s. 8d. annual value.

The

The preſent church is a large and well conſtructed building. It has a commanding view of Newcaſtle, being nearly on a level with All-Saints, is very commodious for accommodating the pariſhioners, who are numerous, as the diſſenters in Gateſhead make but a ſmall proportion, to the members of the eſtabliſhed church.

The ſteeple had become old and ruinous; and therefore the preſent one was built about the year 1740. It had, at that time, four fanes mounted on ſpires, on the four corners; theſe being judged too weak for the fanes, were taken down in 1764, and the roof of the ſteeple altered. The bells were hung upon a new frame.

The Trinity-houſe of Newcaſtle, (Nicholas Ridley, Robert Coatſworth, maſters,) were the principal benefactors towards theſe repairs.

Galleries and Pews of Gateſhead Church.

In the year 1763 a new gallery was erected at the weſt end of the church. Thomas E. Headlam, Robert Carr, Taylor Anſell, Benjamin Ord, church wardens.

All the pews in this church are of oak, curiouſly carved. The pulpit is of the ſame wood.

It is obſervable, that the roſe and badge of the prince of Wales is on each pew.

The organ is at the weſt-end of the church; the following inſcriptions on the front: *Gloria in excelſis Deo----Glory in the higheſt to God*, and "Let every thing that hath breath praiſe the Lord."

The Chancel.

It is not diſtinguiſhed by circumſtances of particular ornament; the communion table being a large ſlab

ſlab of common ſtone, ſupported by two figures of angels, holding chalices in their hands.

On the wainſcot above the communion table are I. H. S. *Jeſus Hominum Salvator*, *Jeſus the Saviour of men.*

The windows on both ſides ſeem ancient, thoſe of the chancel, are modern, and of a ſtyle no-ways ſtriking.

Benefactions to the Poor.

Theſe are numerous, and ſome of them ample and ſubſtantial.

An eſcutcheon of Dr. Aldworth, M. D who left one pound annually to the poor of St. Mary's of Gateſhead.

Another inſcribed Iſabel formerly widow of Mr. Edmund Sutton of Gateſhead, and late of George Watſon of Goſwick, left to poor widows in Gateſhead fifty pounds to be paid by her executor to ſuch a number as that none of them ſhould receive leſs than five ſhillings, payable at midſummer yearly.

Another for Mr. Ralph Harriſon of Bryan's Leap, who left one hundred pounds to the poor of Gateſhead.

With many other eſcutcheons announcing the benefactions and legacies of worthy characters.

It appears by a liſt of legacies framed and glazed, in the veſtry of Gateſhead church, dated February 25, 1736, that Henry Smith, eſq. left a legacy of five pounds. That Mr. Collinſon left a piece of land with a dwelling houſe at Eaſington, let at 6l. 5s. per annum. A legacy of 6l. 13s. 4d. by Mrs. Iſabel Glover. A legacy of 20l by Mrs. Margaret Ramſey. One of 20l. by William Coatſworth, eſq.

Theſe,

Theſe, with many more legacies to the poor in this pariſh, are recorded to the honour of the worthy and virtuous donors, whoſe memorial will be had in everlaſting remembrance.

Monuments and Monumental Inſcriptions in Gateſhead Church.

Among many others are the following.

In the choir.---Here lieth the body of Timothy Tyzacke, merchant-adventurer, and Elizabeth his wife who had iſſue by him ſeven children. He departed this life, February 6, 1684. Motto to the arms, " *Seigneur, je te prie garde ma vie.*"---*Lord, I pray keep my ſoul.*

Here ſleeps Mrs. Judith Weld, who was to three miniſters a good wife, to Chriſt a faithful ſervant, to the church an affectionate friend, for piety, prudence, and patience eminent. She departed this life anno 1656. *In Jeſu dormio, ſplendide reſurgam.*---" I ſleep in Jeſus, and, ſhall riſe glorioufly."

In the nave.---The burial-places of Francis Rudſton, Robert Akenhead; Robert Proctor, maſter and mariner, &c.

Againſt the wall, on a ſquare marble compartment:

To the Memory of Andrew Wood, M. A.
Rector of this church.
Born 22th May, 1715.
Inducted 9th of September, 1770.
Interred,
Amidſt the tears of his pariſhioners,
15th of March, 1772.
This monument of their eſteem,
affection, and gratitude,
Was erected by the people of Gateſhead.

Mr. Wood was buried in the choir, where his atchievement ſtill remains.

Beſides

Beſides his, there are alſo thoſe of rectors Shaftoe and Lambe remaining in the choir.

In the church-yard, at the eaſt end, ſtands a monument, ſaid to have been built by Robert Trollop, for the place of his interment. He was the architect of the Exchange and Town-court of Newcaſtle.

There is a faint traditionary account, which I do not much credit (ſays Mr. Brand) that there ſtood formerly a ſtatue of the ſaid Robert Trollop, on the north ſide of it, pointing to the town-court of Newcaſtle, and underneath the following lines:

"Here lies Robert Trollop,
Who made yon ſtones roll up;
When death took his ſoul up,
His body fill'd this hole up."

The monument is "ſtrewed with many a holy text."*

There were two brothers of the name of Bailey, buried in this church-yard, the one a clergyman and the other a painter, upon whom was put a fulſome epitaph. But one Moody a quaker coming paſt, is ſaid to have, with chalk, wrote as underneath,

Here lie a painter and a prieſt,
And all the reſt is but a jeſt.

Rectors and Curates of Gateſhead.

In the king's books this rectory is valued at 27l. 13s. 4d.

Yearly

* It is rather a curious circumſtance, that a rule for architecture, of ſolid braſs, very long, and ponderous, with many geometrical lines upon it, inſcribed with the name of Robert Trollop, dated the very year when the Exchange was built, is at preſent in the poſſeſſion of William Turnbull in the Cuſtom-houſe.—For further account of Mr. Trollop, ſee pages 199 and 200.

Yearly tenths 2l. 15s. 4d. ſynodals 2s.

A penſion of 2l. 13s. 4d. is paid yearly out of this parſonage to the ſchool of Houghton-le-Spring, granted by J. Heath of Kepyer, eſq.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary. Patron biſhop of Durham.

The names of theſe eccleſiaſtics who have preſided in ſacris, in Gateſhead, are diſtinctly recorded from a very remote period.

One Robertus was rector anno 1275.

Henricus Mauſelot 1322.

But we will readily be excuſed from giving a detail of the names of theſe gentlemen; and as nothing ſingular is recorded concerning them, we ſhall come down to more modern times and name a few.

William Lambe, A. M. rector 1733, vicar of Cheſter-le-ſtreet, died at Gateſhead May 29, 1769, and was buried in the choir.

Mr. George Stevenſon, removed to St. Andrews.

Mr. Buſby curate and ſchool-maſter, removed to Hexham.

Andrew Wood, A. M. rector, 1769, of Baliol college, Oxford, rector of Darlington, and chaplain in ordinary to the king. He died of a fever March 13, 1772, and was buried in the choir. Mr. Wood was reputed to be one of the moſt learned and eloquent preachers of the age in which he lived; and left a choice collection of rare and valuable books, which were eagerly purchaſed by all lovers of literature.

Richard Fawcett, D. D. rector. Vicar of Newcaſtle, collated, in 1772 to the rectory of Gateſhead. He was a fine reaſoner, and an able defender of the tenets of Chriſtianity.

John Falcor, A. B. curate and ſchoolmaſter.

Auguſt 13, 1782, Robert Thorp, A. M. was inducted to this rectory, vacant by the death of Dr. Fawcett. He was lately tranſlated to the rectory of Ryton, in the county of Durham.

Dr. Thorp is one of the moſt learned and ingenious mathematicians of the age. He gave the world lately, a noble tranſlation of Sir Iſaac Newton's Principia, and other geometrical works, written in latin. This gentleman enjoys the poſſeſſion of two places, (as archdeacon of Northumberland and rector of Ryton) that give him the authority of a truſtee in Dr. Thomlinſon's library; (ſee page 309). Why the tranſlator of ſuch a man as Newton, who looked on knowledge as the chief good, ſhould negatively approve of the with-holding the regulations of that library, and allow it to be almoſt inacceſſible, muſt remain amongſt the *myſteries* of the *orthodox*.

Robert Proſſer, D. D. ſucceeded Dr. Thorp in the rectory of Gateſhead. He is a moſt valuable character, an excellent preacher, and a good man. He preached, in the year 1801, a faſt ſermon, by deſire, it is ſaid, of the preſent chancellor of the exchequer, before the houſe of commons, from Rev. iii. 19. *Whom I love I rebuke and chaſten; be zealous and repent.*--- It is a beautiful piece of compoſition, and replete with temperate zeal for piety, and a reform of the diſſolute manners of the age. Yet this firm ſupporter of orthodoxy can hold a ſituation that gives him alſo power in ſuch a noble library as that of his late worthy brother, Dr. Thomlinſon, and make no efforts to prove the ſincerity of his love for learning, and the conſequent reformation of mankind, by more regularly having it open.

Charity

Charity School.

This ſchool was founded by Theophilus Pickering, S. T. P. rector of Gateſhead, January 8, 1701. Its ſite is in Gateſhead church-yard, on a ſpot of ground called the Anchorage. This term is probably corrupted from *anchoritage*, or *hermitage*, the reſidence, probably, of a hermit or anchorite there. We are aſſured there was a hermitage upon Tyne-bridge.

This noble attention to the inſtruction of future generations, by good Mr. Pickering, was founded upon a deed of gift, dated January 2, 1701. By this he left the ſum of three hundred pounds, to purchaſe ſome rent-charge, or to be laid out in the purchaſe of land, for the perpetual maintenance of a free-ſchool, in the pariſh of Gateſhead, at the Anchorage, adjoining to the church. The maſter to be choſen by the rector of that church, and to teach all the children of the pariſh of Gateſhead the latin and greek tongues, as alſo to write and caſt up accounts, and alſo the art of navigation, or plain ſailing.

Thomas Stephenſon left to the uſe of the charity founded by Dr. Pickering forty ſhillings per annum, alſo other forty ſhillings per annum, both payable out of a ſhop on Tyne-bridge.

The preſent maſter is the Rev. John Falcon, A. B.

Mr. Woodhouſe, uſher.

There is a new chapel for diſſenters in Gateſhead, weſt from the head of the Bottle-bank. It was opened A. D. 1786. The Rev. Mr. M'Connel is the preſent paſtor to that congregation.

St. Edmund's Hoſpital.

This beautiful old chapel, from the ſtyle of its architecture, cannot be older than the reign of king

Henry III. and it is obſervable that the long ſlips of windows are ſimilar to thoſe at the end of Tinmouth monaſtery, and thoſe in the Temple church in London.

It ſtands on the eaſt ſide of the high ſtreet, diſtant about half a mile from the bridge-end. The weſt end of it is handſomely ornamented with a number of pointed arches, and niches, though the inſide ſeems remarkably plain. It conſiſts of a ſingle aiſle twenty one paces broad by twenty ſix long. Some ſteps at the eaſt end, leading to the altar, are ſtill remaining: near them is a grave ſtone, on which is cut a croſs ſimilar to that in the jamb of the church-door at Jarrow: it has alſo the marks of an inlaid border about it, but the braſs is gone. The arches of the windows, except thoſe on the eaſt and weſt ends, which are entirely painted, are round within, and pointed on the outſide. A remarkable ornament is mounted on its weſt end, on a ſlender rod, being a ſmall circle chequered by ſeveral bars croſſing each other at right angles.

The hoſpital in Gateſhead dedicated to St. Edmund and St. Cuthbert was founded in the year 1248 by Nicholas Farnham, biſhop of Durham.

It was originally intended for four chaplains or prieſts, who were to eat at the ſame table, and ſleep in the ſame chamber, one whereof was to be maſter, from whom the other three were to receive twenty ſhillings annually.

The biſhop gave them the whole village of Ulkiſtan, the old lordſhip of Gateſhead, with the wood of Beneham, and twenty nine acres of land.

Anno 1292 St. Edmund's Hoſpital, after deduction of neceſſary expences, appears to have had a clear yearly revenue of eighteen pounds.

A number of rich donations, legacies, &c. were conferred on this hoſpital of St. Edmund which we have no room to record.

A. D. 1548, it ſhared the fate of other religious foundations, by the all-rapacious hand of Henry VIII. Since which period it gradually declined, till arrived at the ruinous ſtate in which it is at preſent. King James VI. indeed attempted by letters to refound the hoſpital of Gateſhead; but it never roſe to its former condition of opulence, but imperceptibly decayed.

Adjoining almoſt to this venerable ruin was a Catholic chapel, which out of a miſguided zeal, was ſet on fire, when the duke of Cumberland was marching down Gateſhead with his army anno 1745 againſt the rebels. It is ſaid his royal highneſs was greatly offended at the ſight. The Catholic chapel was in a manſion-houſe near to this, the ruins of which are ſeen from all directions. The ſite of this houſe, with its offices and gardens, occupied about two acres and a half of land. This, probably was Mr. Riddle's houſe alluded to by Mr. Bourne.

Chapel of St. Edmund's Hoſpital.

The chapel of this hoſpital, ſituated on the eaſt ſide, and almoſt cloſe to the road leading from Newcaſtle to Durham, a little before we arrive at the firſt mile ſtone, was diſuſed as to public ſervice being performed in it while Mr. Lambe was maſter: this rector compriſed a matter in diſpute between himſelf and ſome of his pariſhioners, who diſapproved of this ceſſation of duty, by preaching a ſermon in lieu thereof every afternoon at the pariſh church. The ſame rector, after allowing a ſmall yearly income to the

the brethren to find them lodgings, pulled down their reſpective houſes which ſtood very near the chapel.

Mr. Wood, the ſucceeding rector, obliged his predeceſſor's widow and adminiſtratrix to pay him (it would have been more charity to have paid the unhouſed poor bedemen) 300l. for the dilapidations of this hoſpital, on which he executed to her a general releaſe. Dr. Fawcett, anno 1780, put the chapel into repair and covered it with red tiles; but it ſtill is unemployed for religious ſervices.

On a late viſit, (ſays Mr. Brand rather merrily) to this deſecrated place, I found cocks and hens roofting on the ſides of the pulpit! On the north was a board put up inſcribed "the ſhipwrights pew in Newcaſtle." One of the ornaments of the altar piece has been converted to a very whimſical purpoſe: the preſent tenant's wife makes uſe of this truly frightful figure of a mutilated cherub, to frighten her refractory children into order and good behaviour; the ſight of this piece of ſculpture, which ſhe calls "the awd angel," never fails (as well it may) to procure inſtantaneous ſilence.

The little arch by way of ſteeple, which ſtill remains upon the chapel, is of the model, and probably of the ſame date, with that of the preſent grammar ſchool of Newcaſtle.

Charity Houſe.

Anno Domini 1731, an alms-houſe was built in Gateſhead, oppoſite to the Toll-booth, (now removed) by the truſtees appointed in the laſt will of Mr. Tho. Powell, of Newcaſtle; who bequeathed all his eſtate, real and perſonal, for that purpoſe.

The

The following inſcription is cut on a ſtone over the doom; "This alms-houſe was built at the charge of Mr. Thomas Powell, late of Newcaſtle, who by his laſt will and teſtament, did leave and bequeath all his eſtate, real and perſonal, towards the purchaſing and building the ſaid houſe, and appointing Charles Jurdon, George Surtees, William Stevenſon truſtees, 1731."

The poor are treated with humanity and tenderneſs. Laſt year (1801) during the great preſſure, a part of it was employed for diſtributing ſoup, which proved a great relief to many poor houſeholders.

We ſhall ſhortly take a general view of the borough of Gateſhead, and of its preſent ſtate.

We have already obſerved, that it bears evident marks of having been a place of great antiquity; but it has been the infelicity of this place, to have been a kind of property of the prelates of Durham, for many centuries. And as theſe gentlemen wear this "warm watch-coat" (the biſhoprick, viz.) for their own natural lives only, they have (and who would not?) uniformly derived as much emolument from it, for their families intereſt, as they poſſibly could. This, however advantageous to themſelves, has checked a ſpirit of induſtry and activity in thoſe who hold tenures of dean and chapter lands, houſes, &c. Hence we find that in the year 1555 Cuthbert Turnbull, biſhop of Durham demiſed (no body will doubt but for a very valuable conſideration) the Salt-meadows, a large tract of fine land on the ſouth bank of the Tyne, about half a mile down from Hill-gate, to the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, for 450 years, at an annual rent of 2l. 4s. as alſo the toll there

at

at 4l. 6s. her annum. This leaſe was confirmed by the dean and chapter of Durham, March 22, 1555.

There is preſerved in the archives of the corporation of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, "An account of the Salt Meadows in the county palatine of Durham, belonging to the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle upon Tyne," taken ſo late as 1714. In all, eighty-three acres and ſix perches.

Anno 1582, Richard, biſhop of Durham, granted a leaſe of the manors of Gateſhead and Whickham to queen Elizabeth, for ſeventy-nine years; which was, by the ſame prelate, extended afterwards to ninety-nine years.

Next year, 1583, queen Elizabeth made an aſſignment to Henry Anderſon and Wm. Selby, magiſtrates of Newcaſtle, of two terms of the above manors.

Strype tells us, that, upon biſhop Barnes firſt coming to Durham, he had a great conteſt with biſhop Pilkington's widow for dilapidations: but being a ſhort time ſettled, he began to plunder his ſee, by alienating all he could from it, and ſelling long leaſes to queen Elizabeth of ſeveral manors, amongſt which was Gateſhead, with all the manors, coal-pits, and coal-mines, in Gateſhead and Whickham, with the commons, waſtes, &c. Theſe the queen gave to the earl of Leiceſter, who ſold his right to Thos. Sutton, founder of the charter-houſe, in London; and he conveyed his intereſt therein to the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, for 12,000l. *Annals, vol.* ii. *p.* 432.

Gardiner, in his England's Grievances, gives the ſame account of this baſe tranſaction.

Thus we ſee, that the worthy inhabitants of Gateſhead have been transferred, as property, by deſpots, royal,

royal, pontifical, and magiſterial, as the petty tyrants of Ruſſia ſell their vaſſals, who are on their lands, along with the lands themſelves. How then can we wonder that Gateſhead has not made an addition of a ſingle inhabitant to its number for two centuries paſt?

Anno 1594, Toby Matthew, biſhop of Durham, granted a charter, for the incorporation of ſeveral trades in Gateſhead.

Anno 1661, John Coſins, biſhop of Durham, incorporated, at their own requeſt, the drapers, taylors, mercers, hardwaremen, coopers, and chandlers, of Gateſhead. Their charter of incorporation obliged them to ſell any perſon the freedom of their community who ſhould produce an indenture that he had ſerved an apprenticeſhip in any other part, on the payment of ten pounds to this ſociety; with a like ſum (*that* muſt not be omitted) to the biſhop of Durham.

They were to chooſe three wardens annually, keep a clerk, a cheſt with two keys, and a common ſeal, called "The ſeal of the wardens and commonalty of drapers, taylors, &c. within the borough of Gateſhead."

There is an extenſive common belonging to the freemen and freeholders in Gateſhead. Part of it, which lies ſouthward, towards Aydon-banks, is mooriſh and rocky; but lower down, where it borders upon the confines of Lameſley pariſh, and down by Darwent-crook, there is ſome good and valuable land. No freeholder, although he may poſſeſs ſeveral freeholds, can have more than one ſtint,---one for one family only,---whilſt milk can ſcarcely be got to feed the poor! Such are the natural effects of incorporations.

Anno 1734, ſome diſputes aroſe in this borough; the burgeſſes and freemen whereof, by cuſtom immemorial, have had a right of common, of paſturage, on Gateſhead-Fell; the ſtewards, and before them the churchwardens of Gateſhead, for ſeveral years paſt, granted leaſes, to erect cottages on the ſaid Fell, reſerving to themſelves an annual rent for damages of the ſoil. The lord of the manor, who claimed the royalty of the ſaid Fell, received in right thereof, from the cottagers, the ſame ſums as they paid to the borough; and had alſo granted ſimilar leaſes for the erection of the like buildings. It was agreed upon by both parties, to refer the matter to council, how they might beſt aſcertain and preſerve their reſpective rights for the future.

In Gateſhead-Fell are many quarries, for grind-ſtones, fire-ſtones, and flags, vaſt quantities of which are exported.

Thus we have given a ſuccinct account of the ancient borough of Gateſhead, co-eval, probably with Newcaſtle itſelf. But it muſt pain a feeling mind to ſee a large place ſo delightfully and advantageouſly ſituated, making but little progreſs in buſineſs; nay, we are aſſured that in Pipewell-gate and Hill-gate, where, but a few years ago there were many tallow-chandlers, a ſugar-houſe, &c. nothing of the kind is now to be found! It muſt mortify the worthy and induſtrious inhabitants, to ſee their goods paſs their doors in waggons to be carried over the bridge to Newcaſtle, unloaded, and re-loaded in carts, &c. to be brought, at a freſh expence, back again to Gateſhead.

It might naturally have been thought that as the river Tyne is much deeper below the bridge on the ſouth

ſouth ſide, than at Newcaſtle quay, that the corporation, who in general are pretty *lynx-eyed* in perceiving their own intereſt, would have run a quay down, by Hill-gate, with proper wharfs, which not only would have enriched the inhabitants of Gateſhead, but would have added greatly to the annual revenues of Newcaſtle. But a corporation, who could petition parliament to prohibit the people of Sunderland from deepening and improving their own river Wear, are not to ſurprize us if they hamper and diſtreſs their neighbouring people of Gateſhead, all in their power. Grammarians tell us that there are two adjective latin pronouns, *meum* and *tuum*, (mine and thine) and however little the gentlemen of the corporation trouble their heads with languages, yet, to a man they all perfectly know the meaning of the *firſt* of theſe, and ſuffer the people of Gateſhead to continue the laſt----the beſt way they can.

In a fine day, a walk from the bridge, to the head of the high ſtreet, which terminates with Mr. Falla's delightful gardens, gives us the moſt charming proſpect in all directions.

We had almoſt omitted mentioning, that in the year 1772, a temporary poſt-office (as it was originally intended to have been) was erected at Gateſhead till Tyne-bridge could be rebuilt; but it was found ſo convenient for the borough and adjacent parts of the country that it continues ſtill, and likely will.

THE RIVER TYNE.

This truly noble river, is ever beheld by the eye of the traveller, with complacency and delight; but to the inhabitants of Newcaſtle, it has additional

charms, unknown to ſtrangers, as it is the grand vehicle and organ of all their conveniences, wealth, and importance.

The maſters of the world might boaſt of their Tyber, the Egyptians of their Nile, the Indians of their Ganges; but the Tyne, in point of real utility to the country, yields the palm of renown to none of theſe, however celebrated in ſtory, or diſtinguiſhed in ſong, as it carries on its ſurface, daily, probably more genuine riches, than almoſt any other river on the globe. And if it does not, like Pactolus, flow on golden ſands, it bears along its ſtreams what produces large ſums of that precious metal.

About the etymology of its name of Tyne, we will not occupy the attention of our readers. It is of little conſequence were it even aſcertained with more preciſion, than it has been, by antiquarians. We ſhall direct their attention to its uſefulneſs, its windings, its harbours, and the adjacent towns and buildings on its banks and ſhores. From Sparhawk at its mouth, the tide flows to Hedwin Streams, above Newburn.

This river riſes from different ſources; ſome of them about ſixty miles to the north-weſt of Newcaſtle; and from thence, to its fall into the German Ocean, about ten miles. But if we meaſure by the windings of the river, it will be more, in both directions. The channel betwixt Newcaſtle and Tinmouth, is of a very different width and depth, ſo that the tide is more rapid in ſome places than others. The entrance into the harbour at the Low-lights is very narrow; but the channel forms into a fine large baſon for the whole length of Shields, capable of holding above 2,000 ſail of large ſhips. Above which, the tide ſpreads over the extenſive flats of Jarrow

ſlake;

ſlake; and then, for a great length, forms a remarkably fine, broad, and deep pool called the Long-reach, all which contain an immenſe quantity of water. After this, the tide is obſtructed, by ſeveral windings and narrow places in the channel till it comes within a mile of Newcaſtle, where it runs in an open and wide pool, till it flows about two miles above the town, when it is a good deal intercepted in its courſe, by a large iſland, conſiſting of many acres, called the King's Meadows; after flowing round this iſland by two narrow channels, and through ſeveral beautiful windings, it riſes a little above the village of Newburn; in all about ſeven or eight miles above Newcaſtle.

The tides commonly flow about four hours and a half, and ebb about ſeven hours and a half at Newcaſtle bridge. The perpendicular riſe of the river here, in a ſpring tide, will ſometimes be about eleven or twelve, and at Tinmouth-bar, about eighteen feet: but thoſe circumſtances vary greatly from the different winds and different quantities of freſh water in the river: in a north-weſterly wind, ſometimes ſcarcely half ſo high: and in ſome of our great land-floods, the tide has not ſufficient force to ſtem and turn the current, which will ſet downwards during the whole ſwell of the tide.---*Rotheram's Philoſophical Inquiry into the nature and property of water*, p. 114.

At Tinmouth-bar, ſays an account in Dr. Elliſon's collections, given by Mr. R. Reed, one of the Trinity-maſters about the year 1700, is a ridge of ſand which lies at the mouth of the river Tyne: the depth of water is different, as to ſpring and neap tides; on which there is at higheſt, or ſpring tides, 21, 22, and

23 feet, at high water; and upon low or neap tides 16, 17, and 18 feet at high water. I ſet theſe depths, they being the uſual depths, unleſs freſhes or floods of rain or change of winds will make a foot or two, more or leſs. The tides riſe upon a ſpring 16 or 17 feet, and upon a neap eight or nine feet.

The Sparhawk is at preſent a ſand, though it is ſaid to be a rock, at the depth of four feet. "I went off to ſea in a boat," ſays Mr. Brand, anno 1780, "to ſound and make obſervations on this ancient boundary. It is about a quarter of a mile from the Spaniſh fort, near Tinmouth-caſtle. It is nearly of the ſhape of a creſcent, one point of which is directed towards Prior's haven, and the other towards the bar. It had then four feet of water upon it, but the tide was riſen conſiderably. N. B. The direction for being paſt the bar into the ſea is, when a full view is gained of Cullercoats." *Brand's Hiſt. vol. 1. p. 16.----Note.*

As this noble river abounded with fiſheries, we need not wonder that the lords of manors on both ſides of the Tyne put in claims for excluſive poſſeſſion of its royalty.

Records of dates of William Rufus, Henry I. and Henry II.'s reigns aſcertain the river Tyne to have been the ancient boundary between the county of Northumberland, and the biſhoprick of Durham; and that from Stanly-burn to Tinmouth, a moiety (or half) of the water thereof, on the ſouth, belonged to St. Cuthbert, and the ſee of Durham; that another moiety thereof, on the north, appertained to the county of Northumberland; and that the third or middle diviſion was common and free: the whole is to be meaſured at high tide.

A.

A. D. 1393, the king confirmed to the biſhop of Durham his moieties of the waters of the Tyne and Tees, with power to unload and load coals, merchandize, &c. without hindrance or moleſtation from the men of Newcaſtle.

A. D. 1414, a third part of the river Tyne, and of the bridge at Newcaſtle, was aſcertained to belong to the biſhop of Durham.

But, upon an inquiſition taken in the year 1447, it was found that the river Tyne, and the ſoil thereof, from the place called Sparhawk, in the ſea, to Hedwin Streams, belonged, under the crown, to the corporation of Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

Bourne ſays, "By an inquiſition, 4th of January, 25th Henry VI. the jury, upon their oaths, found that, time beyond the memory of man, the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne had and held of our ſovereign lord the king, and all his predeceſſors, as burgeſſes of the ſaid town, (when there was no mayor) the ſaid town and water of Tyne, and the ſoil of the ſaid water of Tyne, wherever it was covered, from a place called Sparhawk, in the ſea, unto a place called Hedwin Streams," &c.

A. D. 1454, the king granted the conſervatorſhip of the river Tyne, from Sparhawk to Hedwin Streams, to the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

A. D. 1530, the conſervatorſhip of the river Tyne was confirmed to the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle, by an act of parliament, prohibiting the ſhipping, loading, or unloading of any goods to be ſold, into, or from any ſhip, at any place within the limits of Sparhawk, and the Hedwin Streams, but only at the town aforeſaid; and impowering the mayor, burgeſſes, and commonalty, of that town, and their ſucceſſors,

fors, to pull down all wears, gores, and engines, that ſhould be made in the river, to the great obſtruction of the navigation thereof between the places aforeſaid.

A. D. 1547, all the ſands called ſhores, of the river Tyne, were ſettled on the corporation of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, for the maintenance of that town, and preſervation of the port of Newcaſtle.

A. D. 1605, lord high admiral, Effingham, made an aſſignment to the mayor and burgeſſes of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, of the admiralty juriſdiction, within the port of that town, extending from Sparhawk to Hedwin Streams with power to hold a court of admiralty.

To execute the office of conſervator of the river Tyne, a court admiral was appointed to be held in the town every Monday, before the recorder and aldermen, or any three of them; alſo, they are made juſtices of the peace for the admiralty.

The oar that has been carried or placed before the mayor, as an enſign of authority in this court of admiralty, appears to be of the ſame date with the above grant.

Before this court are brought all delinquents who are found to throw out ballaſt, dirt, ſtones, &c. into the river Tyne, and are, generally, ſeverely fined.

But for the conveniency of unloading ſhips of their ballaſt, ſeveral ballaſt quays were erected on both ſides of the river; and, anno 1653, the corporation of Newcaſtle, for the convenience of trade, granted that a ballaſt ſhore ſhould be erected on the ſouth ſide of the river Tyne, from a place called the Black-points, to Jarrow Pans, capable of receiving ballaſt for more than ſixty years to come.

September

September 9, 1665, a leaſe for a thouſand years was granted by the mayor and corporation of Newcaſtle to Sir Francis Anderſon, of a large parcel of ground at Willington, between high and low water mark, with liberty to build quays, and caſt ballaſt, on payment of twopence for every ton.

It has often excited the curioſity of ſtrangers to know, why the vaſt bounds of Jarrow-ſlake have not been banked in, and ſo many hundreds of acres of fine land won from the river. The following account reſolves this queſtion. About the year 1640, Sir Charles Adderly, and one Mr. Crook, tenants to the dean and chapter of Durham, attempted to build a ballaſt-ſhore upon Jarrow-ſlake, but were obſtructed by the corporation of Newcaſtle, which occaſioned ſeveral petitions to king Charles II.

It was tried in the court of exchequer, and the concluſion was, "that the court were of opinion that the erecting of a ballaſt-ſhore at Jarrow-ſlake would prove deſtructive to trade in general, dangerous both to ſhipping and men's lives, to raiſe the prices of coals, to obſtruct and choak up the river Tyne, exceedingly miſchievous to the bar of Tinmouth-haven, and would greatly injure the town and trade of Newcaſtle."

To keep a conſtant watch over all ſhips entering the port, a water-bailiff was appointed. His office is of great credit and truſt. He is to prevent all defaults againſt the haven and river Tyne; to ſeize, to the uſe of the mayor and burgeſſes, all ſuch merchandizes as are conveyed on ſhore in ſuſpected places; and to look after, preſerve, and maintain the royalties, privileges, and liberties of the port of Tyne, and is allowed a deputy to aſſiſt him in the execution of his very ex-

tenſive duty. He, like other corporation officers, is ſworn at his admiſſion by what he thinks and takes as a mere oath of office.

Another officer, called the quay-maſter, is appointed by the corporation. His duty is to attend on the quay or wharf there. He is to prevent any damage being done to the quay; to appoint the births or ſtations of ſhips; to aſſeſs or rate, by the ton, ſuch ballaſt as ſhall be caſt, by warrant directed to him, into any keel or boat upon the new quay, out of the ſhips ſtationed there; to indorſe, on the ſaid warrant, the number of tons and due caſting of them, without damage to the river; after which the ſaid warrant to be returned into the ballaſt-office. Mr. Henry Shadforth is the preſent quay-maſter.

The places moſt remarkable on the north bank of the river Tyne, as accurately marked by captain G. Collins, and dedicated to the Trinity-houſe, Newcaſtle, are the following:

St. Anne's, Glaſshouſe-bridge, Glaſs-houſes, Redhouſe, St. Peter's-ſhore, Dent's-hole, St. Anthony's, Bill-point, Winkomlee-key, Coſen's-houſe, Stotspow, North-road, Willington Ballaſt-quay, Howdon-pans, High-hole, Flatworth-neſs, Dirtwich, North Shields, Salt-pans, High-light, Low-light, Clifford's-fort, Tynemouth-caſtle, Light-houſe, Prior's-haven, Sparhawk.

South ſide.---St. Mary's, Quays, South-ſhore, Colequay, Friar's-gooſe, Felling-ſhore, Felling-creek, Curton-mill, Bill-quay, Hebburn-quay, Half-way-tree, Jarrow, Jarrow-ſlake, South-Shields, Salt-Pans, Herd-end, or Herd-ſand.

But although the Tyne is a fine navigable river, yet it is not at all times, and in all parts, abſolutely ſafe for ſhipping. In many parts, there are large beds

beds of ſhifting ſand, which are frequently dangerous. The following is a curious enumeration of theſe banks of ſands: "Byker-ſand, St. Anthony's-ſand, Frenchman-ſand, Bill-ſand, Elbow-ſand, Jarrow-ſand, Dirtwich-ſand, Weſtoe ſand, Herd-ſand, Weſt pans-ſand, and Prior's-haven."

But the ſunken reef of frightful rocks, nigh the mouth of the river on the north ſide, is dreadfully dangerous, and prove frequently the deſtruction of many ſhips, and of the ſtill more valuable lives of the ſailors.

It has been repeatedly in agitation, to blow them up with gun-powder, and ſo make it one large commodious baſon for the ſhipping; but from year to year, ſhip after ſhip, life after life, is loſt, and ſtill the laudable enterprize vaniſhes in air! To leſſen the number at leaſt of theſe terrible diſaſters, Mr. Greathead, ſhip-builder in South Shields, by the orders of his grace the preſent duke of Northumberland, conſtructed a *Life-boat*, of ſuch buoyant materials, that in the fierceſt ſtorms when the ſhip is daſhing to pieces, and the wretched ſailors clinging to the cordage, conducted by ſix or eight reſolute daring fellows, it generally brings them all ſafe on ſhore. The Humane Society ſent Mr. Greathead a medal, complimenting him on his admirable invention. Another has been conſtructed by the ſame artiſt, and ſent to Yarmouth, where, only a few weeks ago, it ſaved eleven fine fellows' lives. The lords of the Admiralty have it under conſideration to grant Mr. Greathead a reward ſuitable to the utility of the diſcovery.

The following directions are given for ſailing into Tinmouth-haven. "Run along the ſhore, till you come open of the river's mouth, then bring the light-

houſes in a line, and ſo ſail in, which will carry you clear of a ſand bank called the Herd-ſand; and a rock called the Black-middens, on the north ſide, then you may open the light to the ſouthward. When the moon comes to the north-eaſt and ſouth-weſt, it is high water at Tinmouth-bar.---*Warburton's manuſcript collections.*

We ſhall now, in a very brief manner, mention ſome of the moſt particular places on the banks of the Tyne. To begin at Hedwin Streams. Hedwin is a village ſituated on the north ſide of the river. It ſeems to have been originally a Roman ſtation, from its name, and the Roman wall went cloſe paſt it.

Ryton is a delightful village with a fine church ſituated on an eminence, on the ſouth ſide of the river. We ſcarcely would have noticed it had it not been to obſerve, that it had for its rector, the celebrated and learned Cave, who wrote the lives of the fathers, &c. And a ſtill greater man ſucceeded him, the famous Dr. Secker, who roſe to the firſt dignity in the church of England, by being elevated to the archbiſhopric of Canterbury, and had the honour to chriſten, marry, and crown king George III. his preſent majeſty.

Newburn, about ſix miles diſtant from Newcaſtle, is of great antiquity, and is famous for a productive ſalmon-fiſhery, cloſe by it. It was here that the firſt earl of Northumberland was aſſaſſinated in the church.

The other places on both ſides of the river above the bridge we have occaſionally mentioned, Lemmington, Bell's Cloſe, Stella, Blaydon, Swalwell, &c.

At ſhort intervals, on each ſide of the river the eye is delighted in ſeeing ſtaiths, manufactories, villages, and gentlemen's ſeats, &c. At

At Howdon, there are dry-docks for building ſhips of almoſt any ſize. Two very large Indiamen, of near a thouſand tons each, are now on the ſtocks. At this dock, was built the Argo of 44 guns, a few years ago, which has been extremely active in the ſervice. Here is alſo a large covered ropery, all belonging to the Meſſrs. Hurry.

On the oppoſite ſide, further down, is the ancient monaſtery of

JARROW.

This houſe, which was of the benedictine order, was annexed to the neighbouring monaſtery of Monk-wearmouth. They were both founded towards the end of the ſeventh century, under the auſpices of Benedict Biſcop, of great eminence in his time, who having been a ſoldier in his early youth, devoted himſelf to religion at the age of twenty five; and, having taken the tonſure, became a zealous teacher, and as it were, a miſſionary of the monaſtic life. Benedict made a voyage into France, and brought back with him ſkilful maſons, to build the church of that abbey, after the manner of the Roman architecture; which was ſo ſpeedily accompliſhed, that within a year after it began to be built, it was finiſhed anno 681.

Anno 681, the monaſtery of Jarrow, founded by Ceolfrid, in honour of Paul, the teacher of the Gentiles, began to be built, under the auſpices of Benedict, and with the approbation of king Ecgfrid.

The famous eccleſiaſtical writer, Bede, was born of obſcure parents, in the vicinity of Jarrow, and was, at the age of ſeven years, ſent for his education to the monaſtery of that place.

Anno

Anno 700, many privileges were granted to the joint monaſteries of St. Peter and St. Paul, at Wearmouth and Jarrow, by Sergius pope of Rome.

In the year 735, Bede, the great boaſt of the monaſtery of St. Paul, died, and was buried firſt at Jarrow, but his body was afterwards removed to Durham. Bede, for the age in which he lived, was a prodigy of learning. He was very tolerably acquainted with the Latin and Greek claſſics; and to his unwearied diligence we owe almoſt our whole knowledge of that dark and turbulent period. His eccleſiaſtical hiſtory is replete with curious information, and is written in no contemptible latinity. For a gravity of deportment, and the ſtricteſt piety, he got the epithet of VENERABLE at an early period of his life; and being canonized by the biſhop of Rome, he was enrolled in the calendar of their ſaints; and probably as deſervedly as moſt of their ſaintſhips recorded there. He was acquainted with poetry, rhetoric, logic, phyſics, metaphyſics, aſtronomy, muſic, geometry, coſmography, hiſtory, philoſophy, and divinity. William of Malmſbury thus draws his character: "He was a man, that although born in an extreme corner of the world, yet the light of his learning ſpread over all parts of the earth. All the hours which he had to ſpare from the monaſtic exerciſes of prayer, and ſinging in the choirs by day and night, (in which he was conſtant and very devout) he moſt diligently ſpent in ſtudy, and divided his whole time between that and his devotion. He was preceptor to Alcuinus, tutor to Charlemain, and Claudius and Clemens, thoſe great lights of the church, and the illuſtrious founders of the univerſities of Paris and Pavia."

Like

Like all men of genuine worth, he was equally modeſt as pious and learned. Henry of Huntingdon gives the following account of his works, viz.

An incredible number of treatiſes upon all parts of the old and new teſtaments, many of which are ſtill to be found in the Bodleian library at Oxford.

His eccleſiaſtical hiſtory.

Above one hundred homilies, and many pieces of divinity and devotion.

A ſmall book, deſcriptive of the Holy Land.

A chronicle from the creation.

A book of the writers of the church.

A martyrology.

An epitome of Engliſh hiſtory.

On the ſituation and wonderful things of Great Britain.

The lives of many holy men and abbots.

He died in the 72d year of his age.

About a mile weſt of Jarrow, there is a well ſtill called Bede's Well; to which, as late as the year 1740, it was a prevailing cuſtom to bring diſeaſed children; a crooked pin was put into the well, which was laved dry between each dipping of the patient. But on every midſummer-eve there was a great reſort of neighbouring people, with bonfires, muſic, and dancing, to St. Bede's Well.

In the year 870, the Danes, who were particularly hoſtile to all places of worſhip, deſtroyed the monaſtery of Jarrow. Two centuries after, it ſuffered a freſh deſolation by the royal barbarian, William the Conqueror.

It was, after theſe diſaſters, repaired and partly rebuilt, by grants both royal and pontifical; but with ſcarcely any appearance of its former magnificence.

cence. This too falling into decay, the church underwent a thorough repair in the year 1783; and in 1790 the following inſcription on a ſtone was removed to the weſt end of the church of Jarrow:

BASILICÆ HUSUS
VETUSTISSIMÆ
PARS OCCIDENTALIS
RESTAURATA EST.
ANNO 1783.

Engliſhed.

"The weſtern part of this moſt ancient church was rebuilt in the year 1783."

In the veſtry, kept with great care, is a chair of oak, of an antique form, that is ſaid to have been the identical chair in which the venerable and virtuous Bede ſate and wrote moſt of his works. If ſo, it muſt be above one thouſand years old.

There is a ſingularity in the ſituation of the ſteeple of Jarrow church, which we cannot omit noticing; it being placed in the eaſt end of the building, inſtead of the weſt, as uſual.

SHIELDS.

South and North Shields, in their rapid progreſs in trade and population, are ſtrong demonſtrations, what great things induſtry and a ſpirit for commerce can effect. South Shields was, in former times, celebrated chiefly for the great quantities of ſalt made there. Theſe have been prodigiouſly leſſened of late years. The ſtreet next the river is long, narrow, and incommodious; but within theſe few years there have

have been great improvements, particularly, a market-place has been built. It is a ſpacious ſquare, in the centre of which is a handſome building, for public purpoſes. On the ſouth ſide is a large and commodious church, dedicated to St. Hilda, which is a chapelry of Jarrow. It has a ſquare ſteeple, with a peal of bells. There are ſeveral dry docks for building and repairing ſhips of great burthen. Here, alſo, are eight glaſs-houſes, where large quantities of that valuable branch of manufacture are conſtantly made; viz. four for green glaſs bottles, three for crown glaſs, and one for flint glaſs. At the ſouth-eaſt end, called the Law, are erected ſeveral batteries of cannon for defence of the river.

Upon the late cenſus taken of the inhabitants of Great Britain, South Shields was found to contain nearly as great a number as any town in the county. In it, beſides the eſtabliſhed church, of which the Rev. Mr. Wallace is rector, there are four diſſenting meeting-houſes. One conſiderably above the Mill-dam is (we believe) under the patronage of Lady Ann Erſkine. Another, on a ballaſt-hill, of the Burgher-ſeceder communion, Rev. J. Thorburn, M. D. miniſter. On the bank-head, fronting the river, is a neat chapel for diſſenters, Rev. Joſeph Matthews, miniſter. A little lower down is a large one, with a numerous congregation, Rev. Charles Toſhack, miniſter. The methodiſts have alſo a place of worſhip in South Shields; where there is likewiſe a theatre. Meſſrs. Wilſon, Dryden, Maſſin, Lumſden, &c. ſchoolmaſters, teach youth with great ſucceſs and approbation.

About a mile to the ſouthward is the village of Weſtoe, which is perhaps one of the moſt delightful

and charming places in the north of England. From it is a noble proſpect of the German Ocean, and of the adjacent country. The ſtreet is wide and airy, the houſes elegant, and adorned with pleaſant gardens, flower plots, &c. This place is the calm retreat of the wealthy and ſucceſsful adventurers by ſea.

North Shields lies on the other ſide of the river. The low ſtreet there, too, is almoſt equally incommodious as that in South Shields. This place, now ſo rich, commercial, and important, in the reign of Edward I. contained only three or four cottages for as many fiſhermen. Indeed, its name imports that it conſiſted only of ſheds, or ſhields, for the miſerable accommodation of poor fiſhers! At the weſt end of North Shields ſtands Milburn Place, containing two parallel ſtreets, running from weſt to eaſt, while the front, which looks towards the river, is adorned with a pile of beautiful buildings, on an elevated ſituation, and enjoys a moſt commanding proſpect for many miles round. There are ſeveral docks for building ſhips of large dimenſions, and great burthen, in North Shields. The houſes on both ſides of the low ſtreet are one continued range of ſhops, richly ſtored with every kind of merchandize. Numbers of oxen are ſlaughtered here for the ſhipping, and eſpecially for thoſe in the coal trade, which are generally well victualled. At the eaſt end of North Shields is a ſtrong fort, (called Clifford's Fort) and an arſenal for warlike ſtores. The cannon on the battery are numerous and of large calibre, and, lying almoſt level with the river, form a powerful defence againſt any hoſtile attempt to deſtroy the ſhipping in the harbour. In Clifford's Fort

is

is the low light, which correſponds with another on the top of the bank, and directs ſhips to enter the river by the narrows with ſafety.

On the bank-head, on a fine level ſpacious ground, are many good buildings; particularly Dockwray-ſquare, Toll-ſquare, &c. Some new ſtreets are alſo rapidly advancing; and if the obſervation of lord Kaimes be juſt, that a view of the ocean is the moſt auguſt in nature, the inhabitants in the elevated parts of North Shields completely enjoy it. The pariſh church, which was but lately rebuilt, ſtands about half a mile north of the town. It is a very handſome edifice, with a fine peal of bells in a ſquare ſteeple, and well adapted for the convenience of the pariſhioners, who are very numerous. There are five diſſenting meeting-houſes. On the bank-ſide is one of long ſtanding, and the congregation, which is great and reſpectable, is under the miniſtrations of the Rev. Meſſrs. Rae and Knox. A little farther down is another, (lately the old theatre) Rev. Mr. Colquhoun, miniſter. Still farther down is a large chapel, Rev. Mr. Pollock, miniſter. Here is alſo a ſmall baptiſt chapel, and another for the people called quakers. On the top of the bank is a neat meeting-houſe for ſeceders, Rev. Mr. Armſtrong, miniſter. In Milburn-place is a methodiſt chapel, and another large one, on the bank-head, of the ſame communion. Here is a neat little theatre, which in general is well attended.

But the glory of Shields is its large and commodious harbour, where about two thouſand ſhips can ride ſafely. For above a mile from the mouth of the river, the eye is charmed with ſeeing quite a foreſt of maſts, with ſtreamers waving, and the ear is

delighted with the ſhouts of brave and hardy ſeamen hoiſting the canvas, ready to catch the gale to convey them to the moſt diſtant ſhores.

On the top of the banks are large covered roperies for making cables and cordage for the ſhipping.

In both North and South Shields are many very extenſive breweries, from whence large quantities of beer, ale, and porter, are exported, and alſo uſed in ſtoring the ſhips.

Upon the whole, the inhabitants of Shields are active, enterpriſing, and induſtrious; and, although *adding houſe to houſe, and ſhop to ſhop*, yet "trade is very bad!—never worſe!—nothing but loſing money!" are expreſſions and complaints to which they are ſo much habituated, that a ſtranger is almoſt perſuaded they are in earneſt.

In going eaſtward, we aſcend to

TYNEMOUTH BARRACKS.

Theſe military accommodations are of great extent, in the form of a ſquare, handſomely built, and command one of the fineſt proſpects in the kingdom. The rooms for the ſoldiers are neat, convenient, and airy. In the ſquare the men are daily exerciſed and taught military manœuvres.

A little below, on the weſt ſide of the barracks, is a penitentiary or correction-houſe, ſtrongly conſtructed, and is a diſmal proof of moal depravity; but this depravity we find to be generally, if not always, in exact proportion to the number of commen ſoldiers in a town. Common gardens run along the banks, and are very productive and beautiful.

TYNE-

TYNEMOUTH CASTLE.

Theſe magnificent ruins have ſuch an air of grandeur, as never fails to ſtrike the beholder with a kind of reverential awe. They recal to our minds the days of ancient times, when this once grand monaſtery was the occaſional reſidence of royal perſonages, princes, prelates, and nobles, who, when they attended the ſublime duties of devotion in this auguſt edifice, felt, no doubt, their minds elevated with the moſt exalted ideas of the great Creator, who ſpread the ſkies over the pinnacles of their lofty ſtructure, and who poured out the adjacent ocean, that with inceſſant toil waſhes the rocks which conſtitute the ſtable baſis of this majeſtic fabric. But Tynemouth (once noble) Abbey, in its origin, was poſſibly a religious houſe of rude and ſimple architecture in the earlieſt ages of Chriſtianity, ſoon after the introduction of the monaſtic inſtitution into this iſland.

Edwin, king of the Northumbrians, ſome time between the years of Chriſt 617 and 633, erected here a place of reſidence, of wood, for religious of both ſexes, in which his own daughter Roſella took the veil. Oſwald, a ſucceeding king of Northumberland, anno 634, pulled down this wooden reſidence for devotion, and upon its ſite built another of ſtone.

An oratory, dedicated to St. Mary, is ſaid to have been in this place, where a great number of perſons of diſtinction aſſembled for devotional purpoſes. The monaſtery by this time acquired ſuch a reputation of local ſanctity, that perſons dying in the neighbourhood

hood were brought to be interred in it, according to the ſuperſtition of the times.

Hither was conveyed for that purpoſe the murdered body of king Oſwin. This prince, afterwards canonized, was born at a town that had been a Roman ſtation, oppoſite to Tynemouth, on the ſouth ſide of the river Tyne, called Urſa, which was totally deſolated by the Danes. Oſwin was king of Deira, one of the provinces of the kingdom of Northumberland, and by baſe treachery fell a ſacrifice to the ambition of Oſwy, king of Bernicia, the other province of Northumberland, in the year 651.

The Danes repeatedly plundered and deſtroyed this ſtately monaſtery; and it is ſaid to have been completely demoliſhed by Hungar and Hubba. It is aſſerted by ſome writers that it was rebuilt by Toſti, earl of Northumberland.

Anno 1094, the bodies of Malcolm, king of Scotland, and his ſon, prince Edward, both ſlain in battle, were interred in this monaſtery.

Earl Mowbray, having entered into a conſpiracy to dethrone William Rufus, converted this place into a caſtle to defend his treaſon on that occaſion; but Rufus, marching againſt him, beſieged the caſtle for two months, and taking the place, Mowbray was dragged out and put to death.

Rufus conferred many grants and privileges upon the monaſtery of Tynemouth; and Henry II. gave ſeveral valuable endowments to it; but the moſt liberal royal donor to Tynemouth was king John. That the reader may form ſome idea of the opulence of this grand religious reſidence, we ſhall here enumerate what the laſt named king confirmed to the monks

monks of Tynemouth, and what he gave them of his own munificence.

The charter, dated 1204, confirmed to the church of Tynemouth all their lands and poſſeſſions, *i. e.* the villages of Tynemouth, Seaton, Preſton, both the Chirtons, Millington, Whitely, Erdeſdon, the two Backworths, Seghill, Morton, Bebſide, the two Diſſingtons, Ulſington, Bewick, Eglingham, Lilburn, Anibell, Hawkſlaw, Elſwick, Wylam, Weltedon, and half of Copun, Carleberry, and Morton in Biſhopric, Helleſhaw, and the lands of Royley and Denum, with the churches of Tynemouth, Woodhorn, Whalton, Bolum, Bewick, and Eglingham, and of Hertburn and Connyſcliff; alſo Hereford on Blyth, and the tythes of Hertnes, with thoſe of Middleton on Tees, of Corbridge, Rothbury, Warkworth, Wooler, and Newburn.

It appears that the priory of Tynemouth poſſeſſed the royalties of no fewer than twenty-ſeven villas in the county of Northumberland! But the rapacious Henry VIII. ſtripped this rich monaſtery of all its valuable poſſeſſions, anno 1539; and Robert Blakeney, prior, with fifteen monks and three novices, ſurrendered the monaſtery of Tynemouth.

On the ſuppreſſion of this priory, an annual penſion of 80l. was aſſigned to Robert Blakeney, the prior, (the rich plunder could well afford it) and ſmaller ones to each of the above monks and novices; about 5l. to each.

Tynemouth Caſtle, from its lofty ſituation on rocks of prodigious height, almoſt perpendicular to the ſea, ſeems by nature to be formed for a place of ſtrength; and ſo we find it was, at an early period, fortified againſt the occaſional depredations of pirates, and

and the ſtill more formidable invaſions of the Scots. Tynemouth, on that account, for ages became the ſcene of many bloody conflicts.

Among the laſt of the military exploits, which happened at Tynemouth, were thoſe during the unhappy civil war between Charles I. and his parliament; for, anno 1642, Tynemouth Caſtle was put in a poſture of defence by the earl of Newcaſtle, then governor of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, who ſent three hundred ſoldiers from thence, with ſix large cannons. Trenches were caſt up, and a fort was erected at the mouth of the haven on this occaſion.

Oct. 27, 1644, Tynemouth Caſtle, after having been beſieged for ſome time, ſurrendered to general Leven and the Scots army, when thirty-eight pieces of ordnance, and great ſtore of arms, ammunition, and proviſions, fell into the hands of the enemy. The garriſon were allowed to march out with their baggage on this occaſion. It is mentioned that on the 19th preceding of that month, the garriſon having ſuffered ſeverely by the plague, the chief commanders had left the caſtle.

A. D. 1648, Sir Arthur Haſlerigg was governor of Tynemouth Caſtle. Colonel Lilburn, his deputy in the command, having revolted, and declared for the king, Haſlerigg ſtormed the caſtle, and put all that were in arms therein to the ſword. Lilburn's head was cut off, and fixed upon a pole. After the reſtoration, the common-council of Newcaſtle voted two hundred pounds towards the reparation of the works of Tynemouth Caſtle, in conſequence of a letter from Charles II.

The old church, within the caſtle of Tynemouth, was uſed for divine ſervice till the year 1668, when

a new

a new one was built and conſecrated in the courſe of the ſame year.

A. D. 1783, the Britiſh government reſumed the poſſeſſion of Tynemouth Caſtle, for a place of arms and a depoſitory of ſtores, for the better protection of the port of Tyne, and of the adjacent coaſts of Durham and Northumberland. In conſequence of this reſolution, many fine pieces of cannon, ſeveral of them braſs, and great quantities of military ſtores, arrived at Tynemouth Caſtle; ſo that it is now a complete place of arms and warlike ſtores. The fine and magnificent entrance into the caſtle was entirely demoliſhed, and built up in a ſtyle of architecture of the moſt contemptible kind, over which are fitted up barracks for the ſoldiers. This debaſing alteration was made by the orders of his grace the duke of Richmond, then maſter of the ordnance. He underſtood, in practice, this verſe in Horace better than any man in the kingdom:

Deſtruit, edificat, mutat quadrata rotundis.
He builds, deſtroys, and changes ſhapes of things.

This celebrated monaſtery, which was of the Benedictine order, produced many learned men. We cannot even ſelect a ſmall enumeration of them, but ſhall only mention two. John of Whethamſtede, 33d abbot of St. Alban's, was a monk of the priory of Tynemouth, and gave, after he came to be abbot, a chalice of pure gold, and of great weight, to the priory of Tynemouth. Stephen's Monaſticon ſays of him, "*Contegit iſte lapis*," &c.

ENGLISHED.

"*This ſtone covers the bones of the venerable John Whethamſtede, who was abbot here in his time, moſt*

learned himſelf, a lover of learned men, and kind to them all. He was as zealous as Phineas againſt lewd perſons, and as John againſt adulterers, and even as Peter againſt Simoniacs. He was ſo great a repairer of decayed churches, that none exceeded him in that virtue, nor is there any his equal to this day."

John of Tynemouth was born in that town, and is ſaid to have been vicar of it. He was a moſt virtuous perſon, and well learned, entirely addicted to the ſtudy of the holy ſcriptures, and of ſacred hiſtory. He collected the lives and acts of the ſaints of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, with great judgment and indefatigable labour; which work he entitled *Sanctilogium Servorum Dei*, i. e. *The Sacred Hiſtory of the Servants of God.* He alſo wrote many commentaries and expoſitions of the ſcripture; a work called *The Golden Hiſtory*; a martyrology, &c.

In the ruins of Tynemouth monaſtery there are ſtill obſervable three receſſes in the ſouth wall, near the entrance to the oratory of St. Mary; one is ſaid to have been the confeſſional chair; another of them has evidently been the cavity for containing the holy water; and the third the cloſet for the conſecrated hoſt. It is remarkable, that the capitals of the columns have each of them a different kind of ornament.

The little oratory of St. Mary has been cleaned out, by the order of the governor, and ſhut up to preſerve it from future deſecrations. It is on the eaſt end of the lofty ruins, and ſtill entire.

In a place devoted for ſo many centuries to religion, and where the duſt of princes, prelates, chiefs, and nobles, has ſlept for ages, the recording monuments of their high achievements, their virtues, and

their

their worth, muſt have been numerous and ſplendid. But, alas! all-devouring time, and the ruthleſs havoc of war, have conſigned almoſt the whole to oblivion! Some tomb-ſtones ſtill remain among the mournful ruins. On two altar tombs of blue marble, in the part that has been the chancel, are the two following inſcriptions.

"Here lieth the body of HENRY REAY, eſq. merchant, alderman, and twice mayor of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, who died October 18th, 1734, aged 63. He was a magiſtrate, able, generous, and of a truly public ſpirit of religion; A zealous advocate and defender of the Church of England, and thoſe that wait at its altar: a ſincere friend and underſtanding patron. In the various inſtitutions of public charity a prudent director, and munificent benefactor. Of exact integrity in commerce, humanity to ſtrangers, civility to acquaintance, and generoſity to all."

"Here lieth interred the body of UTRICK REAY, ſon and heir of Henry Reay, eſq. alderman of Newcaſtle upon Tyne. He was endowed with all thoſe amiable and ſocial qualities which cauſe men to be beloved when living, lamented when dead. By his wife Bridget, daughter of Henry Blencow, of Blencow-Hall, in the county of Cumberland, eſq. he had iſſue three children, Philadelphia, who died before him, April 4th, 1736, in the 1ſt year of her age; Hannah and Utrick, who ſurvived him: He died April 10th, 1742, in the 31ſt year of his age. Here alſo lieth buried UTRICK REAY, his ſon, who died March 4th, 1744, in the 7th year of his age. To whoſe memory this monument was erected, by the forenamed Bridget Reay."

In the church-yard are a great many beautiful tomb-ſtones, and are almoſt daily encreaſing.

In walking round the precincts of this celebrated place, nothing can exceed the proſpects with which the eye is luxuriouſly entertained. When we look down from theſe tremendous rocks, "and view the main that ever toils below;" when we extend our view northward, we ſee the princely ſeat of Seaton-Delaval, and are charmed with obſerving, at a diſtance, Cullercoats, Hartley, Blyth, and the ruined abbey of Holy Iſland;---ſouth and weſt, groves of maſts, and the flouriſhing, ſpreading towns of North and South Shields. In a word, "take this proſpect for all in all, we ſhall not eaſily ſee its like again." We take our leave of theſe antique towers and hallowed walls, with a "ſigh, drawn from the inmoſt ſoul," and ſaying, peace to the manes of the virtuous and the good, who ſleep there, till the glorious reſtitution of all things!

On the north-eaſt ſide of the caſtle is a light-houſe for the direction of ſhips; it is very high, and the lights from it are ſeen many leagues at ſea. Cloſe to it is a battery of very large cannon, pointed over theſe lofty rocks, for defence of the ſhipping.

The preſent governor of Tynemouth Caſtle is Charles Rainsford, whoſe annual ſalary is two hundred and eighty-four pounds; and that of the lieutenant-governor, Charles Crawford, one hundred and ſeventy-three pounds.

The village of Tynemouth has one very wide and airy ſtreet. In it are ſeveral taverns and inns for the accommodation of thoſe who come in parties of pleaſure, or for bathing. It is now a place of genteel reſort for ſea-bathing during the ſummer ſeaſon, for

which

which purpoſe the bay, called Prior's Haven, on the ſouth ſide of the caſtle, is exceedingly well adapted. The uſual morning walk of the company is among the extenſive and venerable ruins of the caſtle and monaſtery, the ſight of which fills all viſitants of taſte with emotions of veneration and ſympathy; exclaiming with a ſigh, *Sic tranſit gloria mundi*—*So paſſes the glory of all human things.*

HISTORICAL EVENTS.

A ſuccinct Account of the moſt remarkable Events which have happened in Newcaſtle.

A TOWN, which, for ages, made ſo great a figure for its political, and in our times for its commercial conſequence, muſt have been ſubject to various revolutions, and given birth to many very ſtriking events. On a ſlight retroſpect of its hiſtory, many occurrences preſent themſelves, ſingular, and in a manner peculiar to itſelf. At an early period, we have ſeen, that its ſituation, adjoining to one of the fineſt rivers of the iſland, ſoon attracted the attention of the Romans. The fitneſs of the river Tyne for the purpoſes of navigation did not long eſcape the notice of a commercial people; nor can we doubt but that the moſt ancient Britons choſe their reſidence on its fertile and delightful banks. The mightieſt and moſt enterpriſing of the Roman emperors, upon their ſubduing the ſouthern parts of the iſland, turned their attention to make it a depot of arms, and a barrier againſt the intrepid and reſtleſs tribes of northern barbarians.

Julius

Julius Agricola, governor under the emperor Titus Veſpaſian, eſtabliſhed a garriſon here about A. D. 80; and made it one of that chain of military ſtations which extended from the eaſtern to the weſtern ſea.

Hadrian, the Roman emperor, built his wall or rampart nearly from the Iriſh ſea to the German ocean, terminating at this part of the river; over which alſo he threw a bridge, at this place: a circumſtance which gave a new appellation, that of Pons Ælii, (derived from his family name Ælius) to the Roman ſtation, the ſite of which is at preſent included within the walls of Newcaſtle.

Severus was here in perſon, and began to erect his famous wall of ſtone, A. D. 207. which was extended acroſs the iſland, nearly from ſea to ſea. This ſtupendous monument of the Roman people paſſed through the ſite of the preſent Newcaſtle eaſtward, ending at the ſtation of Segedunum, near the village of Wallſend.

This celebrated place, after hiſtorical ſilence of nearly two hundred years, occurs again, under the new appellation of *Ad Murum*, (at the wall) and the reſidence of a Northumbrian king. During the heptarchy, which continued near three hundred years, it had the name of Monkcheſter, and was one of the principal ſeats of the Northumbrian princes.

The conqueror William frequently viſited this town, in his wars with his refractory barons, or the reſtleſs Scots. His ſon Rufus built the ſtrong forteſs, from which it exchanged its name once more to that of Newcaſtle, which it retains to the preſent times.

A. D. 1068, Northumberland was invaded and Newcaſtle taken by Edgar Etheling, heir to the crown of England, together with Malcolm, king of Scotland, whom the conqueror engaged in perſon, and overthrew on a heath adjoining to that place, now called Gateſhead-fell. The enraged Norman laid Newcaſtle almoſt level with the ground, to prevent its becoming, in future, an aſylum to his enemies.

A. D. 1072, William the conqueror paſſed again through Newcaſtle, on his way to Scotland. Malcolm met him at Berwick upon Tweed, where he did him homage.

About the beginning of the reign of king Stephen, the town of Newcaſtle appears to have been ſeized into the hands of David, king of Scots; in whoſe poſſeſſion, or rather perhaps in that of prince Henry his ſon, it ſeems to have continued for a long time.

In the year 1173, William, king of Scots, taking advantage of the unnatural rebellion raiſed againſt Henry II. in his family and kingdom,

kingdom, appears to have invaded England. After having committed the moſt dreadful devaſtation, as far as the banks of the Tyne, he retreated, and ſat down before Alnwick Caſtle, in a place adjoining to which, amidſt a troop of between ſixty and ſeventy horſemen, apprehending no danger, and diverting himſelf with the exerciſes of chivalry in an open plain, he was taken priſoner by Ranulph de Glanville, ſheriff of Yorkſhire, with a band of horſe, in which were about 400 knights. This gallant party, who had ſet out from Newcaſtle early on the morning of the 12th of July, returned the ſame evening, bringing the grand enemy of their royal maſter along with them——This William king of Scots, ſurnamed the Lion, was afterwards confined in the caſtle of Richmond, till king Henry removed him, and impriſoned him at Rouen, in Normandy. The Scottiſh king was afterwards delivered up at York, for the ranſom of 4,000l. and a dreadful rencounter took place at the bridge of Newcaſtle, on his return to his kingdom, between his own guards and the commons of that town, who, doubtleſs, were highly exaſperated at the redemption of an enemy whom they had ſo great cauſe both to hate and fear.

About the year 1209, there was a conference held at Newcaſtle between king John and William king of Scots.

In the year 1213, king John marched through the town of Newcaſtle, on his route againſt Scotland with his army; but the Scottiſh king met him on the borders, and, by the mediation of common friends, the quarrel was made up for ſome time between the two kingdoms.

A. D. 1234, there was a grievous plague at Newcaſtle, which continued for three years.

In the year 1236, king Henry III. had a conference with Alexander, king of Scotland, at the town of Newcaſtle.

In the year 1244, the ſiſter kingdoms had nearly come to an open rupture, the king of England being at Newcaſtle with an army, and the king of Scots with another at Ponteland; a peace, however, was agreed upon by the mediation of the archbiſhop of York, and ſome of the nobility, on the eve of the Aſſumption of the Bleſſed Virgin. Rapin tells us, that Alexander ſubmitted to the ſame homage that he himſelf had paid on a former occaſion, and which his anceſtors had been accuſtomed to pay. So perfect a reconciliation took place between the contending parties on this occaſion, that, before their departure, a marriage was agreed upon

on between the ſon of Alexander, king of Scots, and Margaret, the eldeſt daughter of the king of England.

A remarkable event diſtinguiſhed the feaſt of St. Stephen, in the year 1292, at Newcaſtle; John Baliol, king of Scotland, having, againſt the will of his own nobles, if we may credit Boethius, done homage, on that day, for his crown, to the king of England, in the hall of his palace, within the caſtle of that town: the ceremony was conducted with much ſolemnity, and in the preſence of a number of great perſonages of both nations.

In the year 1297, the Scots renewed their former hoſtilities, by making an inroad into England, ſlaying the inhabitants of Northumberland, and burning and laying waſte the country; the inhabitants, with their wives, children, furniture, and cattle, fled to Newcaſtle upon Tyne, whither alſo the enemy marched down the northern bank of the river: the townſmen having made every neceſſary preparation for reſiſtance, ſallied forth in order to fight them, upon which the Scots turned another way

In the year 1322, a general rendezvous of the king's forces was ordered to be held at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, on the feaſt of the Holy Trinity. A rendezvous was alſo ordered to be at the ſame place on the eve of St. Luke that year, which was prevented by another incurſion of the Scots into England, who penetrated as far as Yorkſhire, and nearly took the king of England, then reſiding at Byland, in that county, a priſoner. They are ſaid to have beſieged Newcaſtle on this occaſion, but met with a vigorous repulſe.

On the execution of Andrew de Harcla, earl of Carliſle, who had ſuffered death for treaſon, one quarter of his body was ordered to be put up on the keep of the caſtle of Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

The queen of king Edward III. having followed the king to Durham, was conducted to him through the gate of the abbey to the prior's lodgings; where having ſupped, and gone to bed with her royal lord, ſhe was ſoon diſturbed by one of the monks, who rudely intimated to the king, that St. Cuthbert by no means loved the company of her ſex. The queen upon this got out of bed, and having haſtily dreſſed herſelf, went to the caſtle for the remaining part of the night, aſking pardon for the crime ſhe had inadvertently been guilty of againſt the patron ſaint of their church.

Soon after the return of David, king of Scots, to his own country, where he arrived June 2d, 1342, he invaded England by the eaſtern border with an immenſe army, and coming to Newcaſtle

Newcaſtle upon Tyne, lay about it all night. Early the next morning the townſmen ſallied forth to reconnoitre the enemy, of whom they ſlew great numbers by ſurpriſe, and brought back with them the earl of Murray, whom they took a priſoner in his tent. The next morning the Scots aſſaulted the town, but Sir John Nevil, then captain of the caſtle, making a moſt vigorous defence, they were compelled to raiſe the ſiege, and marched on towards Durham.

In the year 1388, while the Engliſh were unhappily occupied by the civil diſſentions between the king and his parliament, the Scots invaded England. All the military perſons of the country were ordered to aſſemble, on this occaſion, at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, which was ſo full of people, that, as Froiſſard tells us, "they wyſt not where to lodge." The enemy having, as uſual, marked their way by rapine and deſtruction, as far as Durham, returned and ſat down two days before Newcaſtle, on both of which they had ſkirmiſhes with the defendants within that town. Sir Henry and Sir Ralph Percy, the gallant ſons of the earl of Northumberland, as the ſame authority words it, were ever foremoſt at the barriers of the town to ſkirmiſh. In one of theſe rencounters, Sir Henry Percy, fighting hand in hand with the earl of Douglas, loſt his ſtandard, which he made a vow to recover, and for that purpoſe purſued the Scots on their return as far as Otterbourn, where a moſt bloody battle was fought, in which the Engliſh army were rather unfortunately than diſhonourably defeated.

December 1, 1428, king Henry VI. iſſued an order for the ſafe conduct of the king of Scots, to be eſcorted as far as Newcaſtle upon Tyne or Durham, by one thouſand of his own horſe, to a perſonal conference with Henry Beaufort, biſhop of Wincheſter, in order to prevent hoſtilities between the two kingdoms.

A convention for a marriage between James, then duke of Rotheſay, heir apparent of the king of Scotland, and Ann, daughter of the duke of Suffolk, and niece of the Engliſh king, as ſoon within three years as the parties came of fit age, was agreed upon to be ratified December 6, 1483, in the church of St. Nicholas in Newcaſtle upon Tyne; but it was a felicity not deſtined to this Ann, but reſerved for Margaret, daughter of Henry VI. by a marriage with the king of Scotland, to lay the foundation of a real, and we truſt everlaſting, coalition between

kingdoms united by nature, but which, for a ſeries of ages, were unnaturally and very unhappily disjoined.

About the middle of Auguſt, 1487, king Henry VII. arrived at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, on a progreſs through the northern counties, and carrying on a ſevere inquiſition againſt the perſons who had been concerned in the late rebellion. He continued to reſide in that town during the remainder of the ſummer.

On the 24th of July, 1503, Margaret, eldeſt daughter of Henry VII. then affianced to James IV. king of Scotland, arrived at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, on her way to that kingdom, where ſhe was entertained with great ſtate, and left the town on the 26th following.

The earl of Surrey, in the abſence of king Henry VIII. ordered a rendezvous of military forces at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, September 1, 1513. He arrived at that town Auguſt 30, on an expedition againſt Scotland, hoſtilities having been renewed between the two kingdoms. He had procured the banner of St. Cuthbert from the church of Durham. The earl was joined at Alnwick, on the 4th of September, by his ſon Thomas, lord admiral, accompanied with a great number of forces, both ſoldiers and mariners, which he had brought by ſea to Newcaſtle. On the 9th of that month was fought the battle of Flodden-field, where the king of Scotland was ſlain, and from whence his body, firſt taken to Berwick, was afterwards ſent to Newcaſtle, and from thence removed to the monaſtery of Shene, or Richmond, in Surrey.

In the year 1541, while king Henry VIII. was at York, expecting an interview with the king of Scotland, which had been agreed upon, and would have taken place if James had not broken the appointment, the mayor of Newcaſtle waited upon him with a preſent of 100l. He was complimented in the ſame manner by the chief magiſtrates of York and Kingſton upon Hull. The year following hoſtilities recommenced between the two kingdoms.

In the year 1543, on the death of James V. of Scotland, king Henry projected a marriage between his ſon Edward, then only five years old, and Mary, the infant queen of that kingdom; certain Scottiſh nobles, who had been made priſoners at a late defeat near Solway, were deputed into Scotland for this purpoſe, where they arrived about the middle of January, having firſt delivered hoſtages to the duke of Suffolk, lieutenant of the north, at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, for their return. Faction, however, prevented

alſo this laudable intention of extinguiſhing the inveterate hatred of the two nations.

The laſt day of March, in the year 1544 a rendezvous of military forces was ordered at Newcaſtle: a fleet with 200 ſhips and 5000 ſoldiers and mariners, arrived at Tynemouth-haven about March 21ſt, and ſailed with an army of 10,000 men for Scotland, about the end of April following.

In the year 1553, Gateſhead was annexed, by act of parliament, to Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

On the 9th of April, 1603, king James I. on his way from Scotland to take poſſeſſion of the crown of England, arrived at Newcaſtle upon Tyne. On the following day, Toby Matthew, biſhop of Durham, preached before him at St. Nicholas' church in Newcaſtle, on the 2 Chron. xv. 1, 2. On the 13th the king ſet forward for Durham.

April 23, 1617, king James, on his way towards Scotland, came to Newcaſtle upon Tyne, where he was met upon the Sandhill by the mayor, aldermen, and ſheriff; and after an oration made by the town-clerk, was preſented by the mayor, in the name of the whole corporation, with a great ſtanding bowl, to the value of an hundred jacobuſes, and an hundred marks in gold; the mayor carrying the ſword before him, accompanied by his brethren on their foot-cloths.

In the year 1630, a moſt extraordinary, and yet a ſeemingly well-atteſted account occurs of the fruitfulneſs of a Scotch woman, wife to a weaver, who bore him, as is therein aſſerted, ſixty-two children, all of whom lived till they were baptized; three or four of theſe children are repreſented as living this year at Newcaſtle.

The plague, which raged ſo dreadfully in the year 1636 at Newcaſtle, is ſaid to have come over from Holland, and other parts beyond the ſeas. There died in all, of this tremendous viſitation, between the 7th of May and 31ſt of December, no leſs than 5037 perſons at Newcaſtle; and at Gateſhead, between the 30th of May and the 17th of October, 515 perſons.

Auguſt 21, 1640, the Scottiſh army, commanded by Leſley, Montroſe, and others, invaded England; and having without moleſtation marched through Northumberland, came to Newburn, a village ſix miles above Newcaſtle, where there is a ford over the river Tyne. Lord Conway, with the earl of Strafford, general of the king's army, then at York, with 3000 foot and 1500 horſe,

were poſted oppoſite to them on the ſouth ſide of that river, to guard the paſs, and prevent their coming over. A meſſenger deputed from the Scots to deſire leave to come over the Tyne, and preſent a petition to his majeſty, was anſwered, that a few might be allowed to paſs, but not the whole army: upon this, Leſley commanded ſome of his horſe to ford the river; in which attempt they were repulſed at firſt, with diſcredit, by the gallant oppoſition of the king's forces; but were ſucceſsful in a ſecond attempt, and cauſed the Engliſh to ſuffer what lord Clarendon has well called "an infamous and irreparable rout." At a council held by lord Conway, at midnight, after the defeat, it was reſolved that the whole army ſhould quit Newcaſtle and retreat to Durham; which was accordingly done at five o'clock in the morning of the 26th of Auguſt. On that day alſo Douglas, ſheriff of Tiviot-dale, with ſome troops of horſe, entered the naked and almoſt defenceleſs town, but not till after the gates had been ſhut upon them by Sir Peter Riddell, and great aſſurances given on their part of the ſincerity and peaceableneſs of their intentions. Thus fell Newcaſtle as the firſt victim in the grand rebellion.

September 1, general Leſley demanded of the mayor of Newcaſtle to bake certain quantities of bread, and brew ſo many tuns of beer a day; upon the mayor's refuſal, the Scots employed men to do it themſelves, who were paid with money in part, and promiſſory notes for the remainder.

In the month of Auguſt 1641, the Scottiſh army, having received 60,000l. for diſbanding, quitted Newcaſtle upon Tyne, through which town the king paſſed on the 10th of that month, on his way poſt to Scotland.

January 15, 1644, in a ſnowy ſeaſon the Scottiſh army, conſiſting of 1,800 foot, and 3,500 horſe and dragoons, croſſed the Tweed at Berwick. Sir Thomas Glenham, with the loyaliſts, retreated before them, with his forces and artillery, from Alnwick to Newcaſtle upon Tyne; the Scots following them by difficult and ſlow marches, ſummoned that town to ſurrender, on the 3d of February: after three weeks fruitleſs ſtay, and ſome ſkirmiſhes, they paſſed the river Tyne on the 28th of that month, and entered Sunderland by the ſea on the 4th of March following.

The earl of Calendar, who had entered England with a reſerved army of 10,000 Scots, to aſſiſt the parliament againſt the king, joined with general Leven in the ſiege of Newcaſtle, which commenced very cloſely on the 13th of Auguſt, 1644. General Leven,

Leven, with the forces under him, appears to have been quartered at Elſwick; while the earl of Calendar, with the diviſion of the army under him, was ſtationed at Gateſhead, on the bridge, and at the glaſshouſes; below which he had thrown a bridge of boats acroſs the river.

September 7, a letter was ſent from the general's quarters at Elſwick to the mayor, aldermen, &c. of Newcaſtle, entreating them to ſurrender the town, and ſtop the further effuſion of blood. Theſe entreaties being not regarded, October 14, general Leven ſent a peremptory ſummons to the mayor, &c. of the town, to ſurrender it immediately, on peril of the extremities of war.

On the evening of the 19th, the Scotch army took the town by ſtorm, after a long ſiege; the governor, Lodowick Lindeſey, earl Crawford, the lord Maxwell, doctor Wiſhart, and others, that had been moſt reſolute for holding out the town, betook themſelves to the caſtle.

October 20, general Leven entered the town, where he went to church with his chief officers, to return thanks to God for their ſucceſs.

The unfortunate king Charles, having fled from Oxford, which was then beſieged by the parliament's forces, threw himſelf into the protection of the Scottiſh army at Newark upon Trent: they conducted the royal fugitive from thence to Newcaſtle upon Tyne, into which he made a private entry on the 6th of May, 1646.

"A little after the king's coming to Newcaſtle," ſays Whitelock, in his Memoirs, p. 234, "a Scotch miniſter preached boldly before him, and when his ſermon was done, called for the 52d pſalm, which begins:

"Why doſt thou, tyrant, boaſt thyſelf
Thy wicked works to praiſe?

"Whereupon his majeſty ſtood up and called for the 56th pſalm, which begins:

"Have mercy, Lord, on me I pray,
For men would me devour."

The people waved the miniſter's pſalm, and ſung that which the king called for.

An agreement having been made between the parliament of England and the Scottiſh army, that the former ſhould have poſſeſſion of the king's perſon, and that the latter, on the receipt of 200,000l. ſhould quit the kingdom of England; commiſſioners were

were deputed from London to receive the king, and convey him from Newcaſtle upon Tyne, from whence he ſet out on the 3d of February, 1647, to Holmby-houſe in Northamptonſhire.

May 15, 1648, the common-council of Newcaſtle upon Tyne made an order to put the town into a poſture of defence: they had before undertaken the work of Shield-field fort, an outwork, as a teſtimony of their love and due reſpect to the parliament for the great favours that had been ſhewn them.

About the middle of October, 1648, Cromwell, and the army under him, returned to Newcaſtle, after the taking of Berwick upon Tweed: they ſtayed three days at the town, partly to give the army a little reſt, and alſo to give time for the train to get up to them. They are ſaid to "have been received there with very great acknowledgments of love." On the 19th, they were ſumptuouſly feaſted by the new mayor, and the next day reached Durham, but not till late in the evening.

Mention occurs of a petition in the common-council books of Newcaſtle, dated March 26, 1649, and ſigned, no doubt, by the inhabitants, concerning witches, the purport of which appears, from what followed, to have been to cauſe all ſuch perſons as were ſuſpected of that crime, to be apprehended and brought to trial. In conſequence of this a perſon was ſent for from Scotland, who pretended to be poſſeſſed of the knowledge of diſtinguiſhing thoſe wretches, who, for the ſake of being able to hurt their neighbours, had ſold themſelves to the devil. His method of examining thoſe pretended witches, which was publicly performed in the town-hall, was ſhockingly indecent. There is no account how many were committed to take their trials at the aſſizes; but it is certain, (horreſco referens!) that one wizard and fourteen reputed witches belonging to Newcaſtle, in company with nine thieves and a witch of the county of Northumberland, were executed upon the Town-moor, near Newcaſtle upon Tyne, Auguſt 21, 1650.

June 29, 1650, Oliver Cromwell having three days before been appointed captain-general of the army, ſet out from London upon an expedition into Scotland: at Durham he was met by Sir Arthur Haſlerigg, governor of Newcaſtle, with colonel Pride and other officers, who attended him to that town on the 15th of July following. He was ſumptuouſly entertained at that place by the governor; and during his ſtay there was a faſt kept to implore God's bleſſing upon the army's undertaking, and a declaration

claration was agreed upon to be diſperſed in their march. Five companies, as a reinforcement, were drawn out of the garriſon of that town on this occaſion.

September 2d following, which was the day preceding that of the battle of Dunbar, Cromwell wrote a remarkable letter all with his own hand, and ſent it from Scotland to Sir Arthur Haſlerigg, at Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

After the fight at Dunbar, general Cromwell ſent a great number of the priſoners taken on that occaſion, to Newcaſtle upon Tyne, recommending them to be treated with humanity.

Auguſt 29, 1657, lieutenant-colonel John Lilburn died at Eltham, and two days afterward was brought to London, and buried in the Quakers Yard: he was the ſon of Mr Richard Lilburn, and was born at Biſhop-wearmouth, in the county of Durham.

In the month of September, 1658, on the death of Oliver Cromwell, his ſon Richard Cromwell was proclaimed protector at Newcaſtle, from which town alſo he was complimented on his acceſſion to a dignity which proved of ſhort duration.

Sunday January 1, 1660, general Monk arrived at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, on the road to which place he was met by great multitudes of the common people, and welcomed by loud acclamations: General Lambert appears to have quitted Newcaſtle about the time that general Monk began his march from Coldſtream.

The MS life of alderman Barnes, ſo often cited, tells us, that when Sir George Jeffries was on the northern circuit at Newcaſtle, "he indulged himſelf in his uſual drunken exceſſes.—A certain gentleman invited him to a plentiful entertainment at his houſe, with which he was ſo taken, that he gained his gueſt's wondrous opinion. They tell me, ſays he, ſuch a man is a whig, but I find it is no ſuch thing, he is an honeſt drunken fellow. They told him Mr Barnes's houſe ſtood in the Cloſe. I even thought ſo, ſays he, ſome cloſe or field, for that rebel to train and muſter his men in. There had lately been a meeting or conventicle broken up at Mr Barnes's—a fine was levied upon the houſe; ſeveral were taken and bound over to the aſſizes—Barnes himſelf eſcaped—Jeffries was very witty upon all the priſoners, but it fretted him ſadly he could not catch this Barnes."

It is ſaid that when the plague was laſt at Newcaſtle, the inhabitants ſent for the *Lee-penny*, and gave a bond for a large ſum in truſt for the loan; and they thought it did ſo much good, that

they offered to pay the money, and keep the Lee-penny, but the proprietor would not part with it. A copy of this bond is very well atteſted to have been among the papers of the family of Lee. This curious piece of antiquity, called the Lee-penny, is a ſtone of a dark red colour and triangular ſhape, and its ſize about half an inch each ſide. It is ſet in a piece of ſilver coin, which, though much defaced, by ſome letters ſtill remaining, is ſuppoſed to be a ſhilling of Edward I. the croſs being very plain, as it is on his ſhillings. It has been, by tradition, in the Lee family ſince about the year 1320; that is, a little after the death of king Robert Bruce. This ſtone is ſaid to have many virtues; that it cures all diſeaſes in cattle, and the bite of a mad dog, both in man and beaſt. It is uſed by dipping the ſtone in water, which is given to the diſeaſed cattle to drink; and the perſon who has been bit, and the wound or part infected, are waſhed with the water. Many cures are ſaid to be performed by it; and people come from all parts of Scotland, and even as far up in England as Yorkſhire, to get the water in which the ſtone has been dipped.

In November 1688, the town of Newcaſtle received the lord Lumley, and declared for the Prince of Orange, and a free parliament. Upon this occaſion, a beautiful ſtatue of king James the ſecond on horſeback, erected upon a white marble baſis, before the exchange in the midſt of the Sand-Hill, was demoliſhed by the mob, who dragged the ſtatue and its horſe upon the quay, and turned them over into the river.

In December 1700, mention occurs of a ſociety eſtabliſhed in Sandgate, for the reformation of manners, conſiſting of twenty keelmen, who had entered into an agreement to exert themſelves in "preventing tiplers upon the Lord's day, and keeping Sandgate free of inmates."

In the year 1705, it appears to have been in agitation in the houſe of commons to enlarge the river Wear, and the port and haven of Sunderland. This was oppoſed by a petition from the maſter, pilots, and ſeamen of the Trinity-houſe of Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

In the beginning of October 1715, on the burſting out of the rebellion in the county of Northumberland, the corporation of Newcaſtle equally diſcovered their loyalty, and evinced their ſpirit on this trying occaſion; and, before the arrival of any regular forces, put that important town into a poſture of defence.

October 23, 1727, the coronation of king George II. and queen

queen Caroline was celebrated at Newcaſtle with the greateſt ſolemnity; the day was uſhered in with ringing of bells; the magiſtrates in their ſcarlet gowns, accompanied by the common-council, clergy, and gentry, went from the Guild-hall to church, with muſic playing, and cannons firing, and from thence proceeded to the mayor's houſe, where a ſplendid entertainment was prepared for them; and after dinner they repaired to the market-place, where a fountain was erected which ran wine; where the magiſtrates, common-council, clergy, and gentry, drank the healths of the King, Queen, and royal iſſue, with many other loyal healths, in preſence of many thouſand ſpectators; thence they went to Guild-hall, where the ſaid healths were repeated with the like ceremony as above, and the conduit running wine all the time for the populace, whilſt a great bonefire, erected in the market-place, was burning, the cannons firing at each health: they afterwards returned to the mayor's houſe, where there was a ball for the ladies; and the evening was concluded with rejoicings, bonefires, illuminations, ringing of bells, and all other demonſtrations of joy.

June 9, 1739, a great riot began at Newcaſtle, on account, as it was pretended, of the dearneſs and ſcarcity of corn. The militia of the town was inſtantly raiſed, and upon promiſe given to the rioters, that they ſhould have grain at a much lower rate, the mob was pacified for that day.

July 26, the rioters aſſembled in immenſe numbers on the Sand-hill, the market-place of Newcaſtle, where alſo the mayor and ſeveral aldermen, and ſome other gentlemen, met at the Guild-hall, to conſult what was beſt to be done on ſo preſſing an extremity. The mob, unawed by the preſence of any military force, and intent upon miſchief, grew more and more unruly; and a gentleman venturing out to inform them that it had been agreed upon that the poor ſhould be ſupplied with rye out of a ſhip at the quay, was knocked down, and much wounded. Upon this the rioters, with more juſtice than prudence, were fired upon; and one of them having been killed, and ſeveral dangerouſly wounded by the ſhot, the rabble inſtantly fell upon the gentlemen aſſembled in the hall, and, having wounded moſt of them, proceeded to outrages that threatened the deſtruction of the whole town.

They ranſacked the town-court and chamber, and having deſtroyed many of the public writings and accounts, carried off a

very large ſum of the money belonging to the corporation; ſome accounts ſay, 12 or 1,300l. others near 1,800l. Afterwards they patrolled the ſtreets, where, finding all the ſhops ſhut up, they threatened with horrid execrations to burn and deſtroy the whole place. In the evening, three companies of Howard's regiment, under the command of captain Sowle, who had marched that day from Alnwick, entered the town, and ſoon diſperſed the rioters, forty of whom were ſeized upon, and committed to priſon; of which number, ſix were afterwards convicted at the following aſſizes, and tranſported each for ſeven years.

April 7, 1745, war was proclaimed againſt France in the uſual places in Newcaſtle, the mayor and aldermen attending, clothed in their ſcarlet gowns, and accompanied by their proper officers.

In the beginning of October, 1745, great exertions were made for the defence of Newcaſtle againſt the rebel army; the news of which preparations having been induſtriouſly conveyed to them, is ſuppoſed to have diverted their intended courſe; for they took their route into England by way of the city of Carliſle.

Great guns were placed on this occaſion at "the Cloſe-gate, White-friar-tower, Poſtern-gate, Heſlop's Houſe, Old Roper's Tower, Dobiſon's Tower, Weſt-gate, Hatter's Tower, Glazier's Tower, Paviour's Tower, St. Andrew's Tower, New-gate, Pilgrim-ſtreet-gate, Weaver's Tower, Cutler's Tower, Roper's Tower, Pandon-gate, Carpenter's Tower, Sand-gate, on the wall above the pant, Broad-chare, Sand-hill-corner, Bridge-end, Mayor's and Cloſe-gate."

January 28, 1746, his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland arrived at Newcaſtle on his way to Scotland, to check the progreſs of the Pretender and the rebel army. He was welcomed at Gateſhead by a kind of illumination, which gave his royal highneſs great uneaſineſs to ſee the mob having ſet a popiſh chapel on fire at that place on the occaſion: the prince, after ſome hours refreſhment, ſet out again the ſame day, and arrived at Edinburgh on the 30th of that month.

July 23, his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland arrived at Newcaſtle, on his return from Scotland, where he was immediately preſented with the freedom of that corporation, as a token of their high eſteem for his many princely virtues, and the grateful ſenſe they entertained of his diſtinguiſhed ſervices in defence of the laws and liberties of Great Britain.

September

September 22, 1761, the coronation of king George the III. and queen Charlotte, was ſolemnized at Newcaſtle, with every demonſtration of public feſtivity. A fountain ran with wine on the Sand-hill, &c.

Auguſt 21, 1771, his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland arrived at Newcaſtle, on his way to Seaton-Delaval, in the county of Northumberland.

Auguſt 30th following, his royal highneſs partook of a moſt ſumptuous entertainment, at the manſion-houſe in Newcaſtle.

In the night between Saturday the 16th and Sunday the 17th of November, 1771, the river Tyne, ſwoln to an amazing height by a land flood, which had been occaſioned by an unremitted fall of heavy rains in the weſt, ſwept away the bridge at Newcaſtle, with the loſs of many lives, and immenſe damage to the inhabitants of that place, and its vicinity. The utility of Jarrow Slake appeared in this diſaſter, as it took in ſo immenſe a body of water, that at Shields the flood was no higher than a ſpring tide: great damage, however, was done in that place to the ſhipping. A veſſel took up at ſea near Shields, a wooden cradle, with a child in it, which was alive and well.

May 29, 1774, Charles Hutton, a celebrated ſelf-taught mathematician of Newcaſtle, was appointed, by the Board of Ordnance, profeſſor of mathematics in the Royal Military Academy, at Woolwich, near London.

September 19, 1786, Mr. Lunardi, the famous aeronaut, made an attempt to aſcend in an air-balloon, from the Spital in Newcaſtle: in filling it, Mr. Lunardi having introduced the remaining part of the acid, and the effervescence being at that time remarkably ſtrong, forced a quantity of inflammable air through the hole, which was only four inches in diameter, before the plug could be replaced: this gave ſuch an alarm to thoſe on that ſide of the balloon, who thought that it was on fire, that they immediately quitted their hold of the net, and flew from it to the other ſide, alarming thoſe ſtationed there alſo. The baloon being liberated on one ſide, made a rapid ſtretch upwards, whereby a conſiderable rent was made in the neck of it: this occaſioned a loud noiſe, and a conſiderable diſcharge of inflammable air: the conſternation now became general, in ſpite of Mr. Lunardi's remonſtrances, and the balloon being ſet at liberty, aſcended with great rapidity, and dragged up with it Mr. Ralph Heron, junior, ſon of the under ſheriff of Northumberland, who had twiſted a

rope, fastened to its top, round his hand and arm, to the height, it is supposed, of five hundred feet, when the rope and netting being disengaged from the balloon, he fell into a garden adjoining, and expired soon after.

June 9, 1787, two sparrows built their nest upon the topmast of a ship lying at our quay, and deposited therein six eggs.

This year a bill received the royal assent, to enable his majesty to license a playhouse in Newcastle.

November 5, 1788, being the hundredth annual revolution, it was observed here with great rejoicings. Many parties of gentlemen met in various places of the town to celebrate the event.

Feb. 20, 1789, the joyful news of his Majesty's recovery from his late mental derangement arrived; in consequence of which, a few days after, a general illumination took place, the grandest and most brilliant ever remembered at Newcastle.

The 18th of Aug. 1791, a terrible fire broke out in the cellars and warehouses on the south side of the bridge-end chapel, which greatly damaged the chapel, burnt in part the rooms over the water-gate, where the coopers and slaters company held their meetings, did considerable damage to the roof of the exchange by melting the lead, which damaged the pictures of king Charles II. and James II. they were afterwards repaired by Mr William Bell, portrait painter.

In the year 1795, a corps of volunteers were raised here, consisting of one grenadier, one light infantry, and two battalion companies: they received their colours at the Forth from Mrs Mayoress, August 25.

On Friday the 28th of August, 1795, his royal highness the Duke of York reviewed the troops encamped on the coast of Northumberland, on Blyth Sands; the whole force consisted of thirteen regiments of horse and foot, and the line extended upwards of three miles. The sight being so novel in this part of kingdom, it is supposed near 60,000 people were present on the occasion. His Royal Highness came to Newcastle in the afternoon of the same day, and dined at the manson-house, accompanied by prince William of Gloucester, the duke of Norfolk, earl of Scarbro', lords Falconbridge, Dundas, &c. generals Sir William How, Balfour, Dalrymple, Smith, &c. &c.

A society was formed in the year 1796, in Newcastle (to correspond with similar institutions in other parts) to propagate the Christian religion among pagans, &c.

The

The ſeamen at Shields were extremely riotous in the ſummer of this year, frequently depriving the maſters of their command, and detaining veſſels under way for ſea. Seventy or eighty of the moſt audacious, however, having been taken into cuſtody and impreſſed, order was at length reſtored.

In September this year two hundred French emigrant prieſts arrived at Newcaſtle from the iſland of Jerſey, and a committee was appointed to provide accommodations for them.

This ſpring alſo, in conſequence of the alarm of invaſion and the ſcarcity of ſpecie, the notes in circulation poured in ſo rapidly upon the banks in Newcaſtle, that the proprietors, at a meeting, reſolved to ſuſpend payment till ſpecie could be obtained. Gentlemen and tradeſmen, however, to the number of 689, ſigned a declaration to take, as before, the notes of all the banks in this town, Durham, and Sunderland.

January 25, 1798, a dreadful fire broke out in the ſhop of Mr Elliot, hatter, in Moſley-ſtreet, which, from want of a timely ſupply of water, burnt with great fury, deſtroying the entire houſe, the upper part whereof was occupied by Mr Matthew Brown, printer, whoſe property was nearly all conſumed.

About this period died in this town the celebrated vender of noſtrums and quack medicines, known by the name of Dr Palmer. He was 100 years of age, and for the laſt thirty years of his life he never went to bed ſober. He ſerved as a private ſoldier in the royal army in the year 1715.

In the year 1798, an armed aſſociation was formed in Newcaſtle, commanded by Sir M. W. Ridley, Bart. M. P. They were preſented with their colours by lady Ridley in the Nun's Field, December 27th of the ſame year.

In the ſpring of 1799 died, at the Leazes near Newcaſtle, Mr John Howard, an eminent ſchoolmaſter: he was the author of ſeveral mathematical and poetical works.

A female was, in the autumn of this year, admitted into the lunatic hoſpital in Newcaſtle, who has lived more than three years among the rocks on the ſea ſhore, near Seaham. She ſpoke the Scottiſh dialect, but it is not known from whence ſhe came. The poor unhappy was dreſſed fantaſtically in rags, which chance or ſhipwrecks threw in her way. Her beard had grown on the lower part of her chin nearly an inch long, and is buſhy like the whiſkers of a man. She is ſuppoſed to have lived upon ſhell-fiſh, and appeared about thirty-five years old.

At

At the beginning of the year 1800, no leſs than ſixty-nine out of ſeventy-one veſſels, laden with coals from Shields and Sunderland, were wrecked in their paſſage to London.

The harveſt in the vicinity of Newcaſtle, in the year 1799, was ſo backward, that a quantity of oats was not cut till the 28th of January, 1800, at Leadgate, in the pariſh of Ryton; and at that late period oats were ſtanding uncut at Hedley and other ſouthern parts of Northumberland.

In conſequence of the failure of the above harveſt, together with the effects of the war, a great dearth prevailed, and wheat in Newcaſtle market was frequently ſold at two guineas a boll, two Wincheſter buſhels.

May 11, 1800, 144 veſſels ſailed from Shields under convoy, for the Baltic, having on board, beſides other commodities, 11,600 chaldrons of coals, Newcaſtle meaſure.

In the autumn of this year, the foundation of the Roman wall, ſuppoſed to have been built by Severus upwards of 1500 years ſince, was taken up at Byker-hill, in order to repair the highways.

In the year 1801, two Life-boats were built by Mr. Greathead, of South Shields, one of which was conveyed to the ſtation off Bawdſey Cliff, and the other to Loweſtoffe in Suffolk.

In the ſpring of this year died at Walker, near Newcaſtle, Mr. T. Barnes, colliery viewer; a man of tranſcendant talents to combat the difficulties of an arduous profeſſion; to avert dangers which an ordinary mind had not foreſeen, or foreſeeing, could not have prevented; and of induſtry and probity to obtain the confidence, eſteem, and reſpect of his employers, to his aſſiduity in whoſe ſervice he fell an early martyr.

June 30, 1801, the alterations, for improving and widening the bridge over the river at Newcaſtle, were begun, under the management of Mr. D. Stephenſon, architect.

On the 15th of October in the ſame year, on the ſigning of the preliminaries of peace between Great Britain and the French Republic, a general illumination took place in Newcaſtle; when many loyal and curious devices in tranſparency were diſplayed.

On the 7th January, 1802, between twelve and one o'clock in the morning, part of the wall, (to the length of 60 or 70 feet) of All-ſaints church-yard, next to Silver-ſtreet, fell down with a tremendous craſh, expoſing to view ſeveral coffins and innumerable quantities of human bones.

A LIST

A LIST OF THE MAYORS AND SHERIFFS OF NEWCASTLE,

Since it was made a Town and County of itſelf, in the year 1400;—previous to which, from the year 1251, the town was governed by a mayor and four bailiffs, who were annually elected.

1400-1 Roger Thornton mayor, William Redmarſhell ſheriff
1402 to 1408 Robert Chirdon mayor, John Bywellgate ſheriff
1409 to 1413 William Aughton mayor, Wm Middleton ſheriff
1414-5 Robert Hebborn mayor, the ſame ſheriff
1416 to 1420 Roger Thornton mayor, John del Strother ſheriff
1421 William Effington mayor, Laurence Acton ſheriff
1422 The ſame mayor, John Chirdon ſheriff
1423-4 William Ellerby mayor, the ſame ſheriff
1425 The ſame mayor, John Jay ſheriff
1426-7 Roger Thornton mayor, the ſame ſheriff
1428 John Rhodes mayor, the ſame ſheriff
1429-30 The ſame mayor, John Clark ſheriff
1431 The ſame mayor, Edward Bertram ſheriff
1432 Laurence Acton mayor, Thomas Chirdon ſheriff
1433 The ſame mayor, Thomas Penrith ſheriff
1434 Richard Hall mayor, Richard Brown ſheriff.
1435 Robert Whelpington mayor, Thomas Wardell ſheriff.
1436 Richard Hall mayor, John Chambers ſheriff
1437 Laurence Acton mayor, Thomas Pendreth ſheriff
1438 Robert Whelpington mayor, John Caſtle ſheriff
1439 John Clark mayor, William Harding ſheriff
1440 John Chambers mayor, John Muſgrave ſheriff
1441 William Harding mayor, Simon Weldon ſheriff
1442 Thomas Wardell mayor, William Jay ſheriff
1443 John Muſgrave mayor, Thomas Headlam ſheriff.
1444 William Harding mayor, Thomas Bee ſheriff
1445 William Jay mayor, John Ward ſheriff
1446 William Harding mayor, John Winton ſheriff
1447 The ſame mayor, Robert Baxter ſheriff
1448 John Ward mayor, John Richardſon ſheriff
1449 William Harding mayor, Alan Bird ſheriff
1450 John Ward mayor, George Carr ſheriff
1451 Robert Baxter mayor, John Baxter ſheriff.
1452 William Harding mayor, John Penreth ſheriff
1453 John Carliel mayor, Nicholas Wetwang ſheriff
1454 John Richardſon mayor, William Roddam ſheriff
1455 The ſame mayor, Thomas Cuthbert ſheriff
1456 The ſame mayor, John Nixon ſheriff
1457 The ſame mayor, Richard Stevenſon ſheriff
1458 John Penreth mayor, Henry Fowler ſheriff

1459 John Richardſon mayor, Richard Stevenſon ſheriff
1460 John Baxter mayor, Nicholas Hayning ſheriff
1461 John Richardſon mayor, Nicholas Wetwang ſheriff
1462 Alan Bird mayor, Henry Forſter ſheriff
1463 The ſame mayor, William Blaxton ſheriff
1464 John Nixon mayor, Nicholas Hayning ſheriff
1465 Alan Bird mayor, William Thompſon ſheriff
1466 John Nixon mayor, Robert Chambers ſheriff
1467 William Blaxton mayor, John Eſington ſheriff
1468 John Nixon mayor, John Cook ſheriff
1469 Richard Stephenſon mayor, John Fiſher ſheriff.
1470 William Blaxton mayor, Thomas Lockwood ſheriff
1471 John Nixon mayor, John Carr ſheriff
1472 William Blaxton mayor, Thomas Snow ſheriff
1473 The ſame mayor, Robert Harding ſheriff
1474 Nicholas Haynyng mayor, William Hodſhon ſheriff
1475 John Carliel mayor, John Semple ſheriff
1476 The ſame mayor, Peter Bewick ſheriff
1477 John Cook mayor, John Heaton ſheriff
1478 Robert Chambers mayor, John Ridſdale ſheriff
1479 John Semple mayor, William Scott ſheriff
1480 John Carliſle mayor, William Bewick ſheriff
1481 George Carr mayor, William Cuningham ſheriff
1482 John Cook mayor, Robert Harding ſheriff
1483 John Carliſle mayor, Robert Stockett ſheriff
1484 George Carr mayor, George Bird ſheriff
1485 Robert Chambers mayor, Thomas Hardbourn ſheriff
1486 George Carr mayor, Robert Brigham ſheriff
1487 The ſame mayor, John Penreth ſheriff
1488 Thomas Lockwood mayor, William Richardſon ſheriff
1489 George Carr mayor, William Chambers ſheriff
1490 Peter Bewick mayor, Thomas Morpeth ſheriff
1491 George Carr mayor, Robert Harding ſheriff
1492 The ſame mayor, Bartholomew Young ſheriff
1493 George Bird mayor, Thomas Hardbread ſheriff
1494 The ſame mayor, Thomas Green ſheriff
1495 The ſame mayor, Chriſtopher Brigham ſheriff
1496 The ſame mayor, William Hayning ſheriff
1497 Robert Harding mayor, William Davel ſheriff
1498 George Carr mayor, John Penrith ſheriff
1499 Robert Brigham mayor, John Snow ſheriff
1500 George Carr mayor, William Riddell ſheriff
1501 Bartholomew Young mayor, William Selby ſheriff
1502 George Carr mayor; Thomas Hall, or Hill, ſheriff
1503 John Snow mayor Robert Baxter ſheriff
1504 Chriſtopher Brigham mayor, John Blaxton, ſheriff
1505 The ſame mayor, John Brandling ſheriff

1506

1506 George Bird mayor, Thomas Sanderſon ſheriff.
1507 Bart. Younghuſband mayor, William Harbred ſheriff
1508 Robert Baxter mayor, Thomas Leighton ſheriff.
1509 John Brandling mayor, Edward Baxter ſheriff.
1510 Thomas Riddell mayor, Roger (or Robert) Dent ſheriff
1511 Chriſ. Brigham mayor, John Paſlopp, or Palſtay, ſheriff.
1512 John Brandling mayor, Thomas Horſley ſheriff
1513 John Blaxton mayor, William Harding ſheriff
1514 Thomas Horſley mayor, Robert Watſon ſheriff
1515 Roger Dent mayor, Robert Ruſſell ſheriff
1516 John Brandling mayor, Peter Chaitor ſheriff
1517 Edward Baxter mayor, Nicholas Richardſon ſheriff
1518 The ſame mayor, Thomas Baxter ſheriff
1519 Thomas Horſley mayor, Gilbert Middleton ſheriff
1520 John Brandling mayor, Henry Anderſon ſheriff
1521 Thomas Riddell mayor, George Davell ſheriff
1522 Edward Baxter mayor, Robert Bertram ſheriff
1523 The ſame mayor, James Lawſon ſheriff
1524 Thomas Horſley mayor, Robert Brandling ſheriff
1525 The ſame mayor, John Watſon ſheriff
1526 Thomas Riddell mayor, Edward Swinburn ſheriff
1527 John Blaxton mayor, William Carr ſheriff
1528 Edward Swinburn mayor, Andrew Bewick ſheriff
1529 James Lawſon mayor, Bartholomew Bee ſheriff
1530 Gilbert Middleton mayor, Roger Mitford ſheriff
1531 Henry Anderſon mayor, John Anderſon ſheriff
1532 Robert Brandling mayor, Ralph Carr ſheriff
1533 Thomas Horſley mayor, William Dent ſheriff
1534 Ralph Carr mayor, Peter Bewick ſheriff
1535 Thomas Baxter mayor, Thomas Bewick ſheriff.
1536 Robert Brandling mayor, John Orde ſheriff.
1537 John Sanderſon mayor, John White ſheriff
1538 Andrew Bewick mayor, George Selby ſheriff
1539 Henry Anderſon mayor, John Hilton ſheriff
1540 James Lawſon mayor, Robert Brigham ſheriff
1541 James Hilton mayor, Robert Lewin ſheriff
1542 Henry Anderſon mayor, Mark Shaftoe ſheriff
1543 Robert Brandling mayor, Bartholomew Anderſon ſheriff
1544 Robert Lewin mayor, Cuthbert Elliſon ſheriff
1545 George Davell mayor, Oſwald Chapman ſheriff
1546 Henry Anderſon mayor, Edward Baxter ſheriff
1547 Robert Brandling mayor, Thomas Scott ſheriff
1548 Mark Shaftoe mayor, Cuthbert Blunt ſheriff
1549 Cuthbert Elliſon mayor, Richard Hodſhon ſheriff
1550 Robert Brigham mayor, Cuthbert Muſgrave ſheriff
1551 Bartholomew Anderſon mayor, Cuthbert Mitford ſheriff
1552 Robert Lewin mayor, John Raw ſheriff

1553 Cuthbert Blunt mayor, Robert Elliſon ſheriff
1554 Cuthbert Elliſon mayor, William Dixon ſheriff
1555 Richard Hodſhon mayor, John Wilkinſon ſheriff
1556 Chriſtopher Mitford mayor, William Dent ſheriff
1557 Bartholomew Anderſon mayor, William Carr ſheriff
1558 Oſwald Chapman mayor, Andrew Surtees ſheriff
1559 Robert Elliſon mayor, Robert Anderſon ſheriff
1560 Cuthbert Muſgrave mayor, Francis Anderſon ſheriff
1561 John Wilkinſon mayor, Stephen Southeren ſheriff
1562 William Dent mayor, George Selby ſheriff
1563 Bertram Anderſon mayor, Thomas Liddle ſheriff
1564 Robert Brandling mayor, William Selby ſheriff
1565 William Carr mayor, Anthony Swinburn ſheriff
1566 Richard Hodſhon mayor, Henry Brandling ſheriff
1567 Robert Anderſon mayor, John Watſon ſheriff
1568 Henry Brandling mayor, William Jenniſon ſheriff
1569 Chriſtopher Mitford mayor, George Simpſon ſheriff
1570 Robert Elliſon mayor, George Briggs ſheriff
1571 William Jenniſon mayor, Henry Anderſon ſheriff
1572 Thomas Liddell mayor, Robert Barker ſheriff
1573 William Selby mayor, Mark Shaftoe ſheriff
1574 John Watſon mayor Roger Rawe ſheriff
1575 Henry Brandling mayor, William Riddle ſheriff
1576 The ſame mayor, Chriſtopher Lewin ſheriff
1577 Robert Barker mayor, Edward Lewin ſheriff
1578 Mark Shaftoe mayor, Henry Leonard ſheriff
1579 Roger Rawe mayor, James Carr ſheriff
1580 Richard Hodſhon mayor, Robert Atkinſon ſheriff
1581 William Jenniſon mayor, Henry Chapman ſheriff
1582 William Riddell mayor, Henry Mitford ſheriff
1583 Henry Anderſon mayor, Roger Nicholſon ſheriff
1584 Henry Mitford mayor, Lionel Maddiſon ſheriff
1585 Robert Barker mayor, George Whitfield ſheriff
1586 Henry Chapman mayor, Robert Dudley ſheriff
1587 Edward Lewin mayor, Robert Eden ſheriff
1588 Roger Nicholſon mayor, George Farnaby ſheriff
1589 William Selby mayor, John Gibſon ſheriff
1590 William Riddell mayor, Ralph Jenniſon ſheriff
1591 George Farnaby mayor, William Greenwell ſheriff
1592 Roger Rawe mayor, Thomas Liddell ſheriff
1593 Lionel Maddiſon mayor, William Jenniſon ſheriff
1594 Henry Anderſon mayor, George Selby ſheriff
1595 William Riddell mayor, Francis Anderſon ſheriff
1596 Ralph Jenniſon mayor, Adrian Hedworth ſheriff
1597 Thomas Liddell mayor, William Huntley ſheriff
1598 George Farnaby mayor, William Warmouth ſheriff
1599 William Jenniſon mayor, James Clavering ſheriff

1600 George Selby mayor, Robert Anderſon ſheriff
1601 Francis Anderſon mayor, Thomas Riddell, ſheriff
1602 Robert Dudley mayor, Francis Burrell, ſheriff
1603 William Warmouth mayor, Matthew Chapman ſheriff
1604 Thomas Riddell mayor, Peter Riddell, ſheriff
1605 Lionel Maddiſon mayor, Henry Maddiſon ſheriff
1606 Sir George Selby mayor, Hugh Selby ſheriff
1607 James Clavering mayor, Robert Shaftoe ſheriff
1608 Henry Chapman mayor, William Hall ſheriff
1609 Thomas Liddell mayor, Thomas Liddell ſheriff
1610 William Jenniſon mayor, Timothy Draper ſheriff
1611 Sir George Selby mayor, Alexander Daviſon ſheriff
1612 Francis Anderſon mayor, Roger Anderſon ſheriff
1613 Sir Henry Anderſon mayor, Henry Chapman ſheriff
1614 William Warmouth mayor, John Cook ſheriff
1615 Francis Burrell mayor, Robert Bewick ſheriff
1616 Sir Thomas Riddell mayor, Nicholas Milburn ſheriff
1617 Lionel Maddiſon mayor, William Bonner ſheriff
1618 James Clavering mayor, John Clavering ſheriff
1619 Sir Peter Riddell mayor, Robert Anderſon ſheriff
1620 Henry Chapman mayor, Nicholas Tempeſt ſheriff
1621 William Jenniſon mayor, Henry Liddell ſheriff
1622 Sir George Selby mayor, Richard Ledger ſheriff
1623 Henry Maddiſon mayor, Henry Bowes ſheriff
1624 William Hall mayor, Lionel Maddiſon ſheriff
1625 Sir Thomas Liddell mayor, Ralph Cole ſheriff
1626 Alexander Daviſon mayor, Ralph Cock ſheriff
1627 Henry Chapman mayor, Henry Cock ſheriff
1628 Robert Bewick mayor, Ralph Grey ſheriff
1629 John Clavering mayor, Robert Shaftoe ſheriff
1630 Robert Anderſon mayor, James Carr ſheriff
1631 William Warmouth mayor, Henry Warmouth ſheriff
1632 Sir Lionel Maddiſon mayor, Francis Bowes ſheriff
1633 Ralph Cole mayor, Nicholas Cole ſheriff
1634 Ralph Cock mayor, John Marley ſheriff
1635 Sir Peter Riddell mayor, Leonard Carr ſheriff
1636 Thomas Liddell mayor, Henry Lawſon ſheriff
1637 John Marley mayor, Peter Maddiſon ſheriff
1638 Alexander Daviſon mayor, Mark Milbank ſheriff
1639 Robert Bewick mayor, John Emmerſon ſheriff
1640 Sir Nicholas Cole mayor, Francis Liddell ſheriff
1641 The ſame mayor, Francis Anderſon ſheriff
1642 Sir John Marley mayor, Henry Maddiſon ſheriff
1643 The ſame mayor, Cuthbert Carr ſheriff
1644 The ſame mayor, James Cole ſheriff
1645 John Blackſton mayor, Chriſtopher Nicholſon ſheriff
1646 Henry Dawſon mayor, Henry Rawling ſheriff

1647 Thomas Ledger mayor, Robert Young ſheriff
1648 Thomas Bonner mayor, Ralph Jenniſon ſheriff
1649 William Dawſon mayor, Samuel Rawling ſheriff
1650 George Dawſon mayor, John Lodge ſheriff
1651 Thomas Bonner mayor, Peter Sanderſon ſheriff
1652 Henry Dawſon mayor, John Butler ſheriff
1653 William Johnſon mayor, Robert Johnſon ſheriff
1654 The ſame mayor, John Rumney ſheriff
1655 Robert Shaftoe mayor, Henry Thompſon ſheriff
1656 Henry Rawling mayor, George Blakiſton ſheriff
1657 George Dawſon mayor, George Thoreſby ſheriff
1658 Mark Milbank mayor, John Watſon ſheriff
1659 Thomas Bonner mayor, James Briggs, alias Bigg, ſheriff
1660 John Emmerſon mayor, William Blackett ſheriff
1661 Sir Jon Marley mayor, Thomas Jenniſon ſheriff
1662 Sir Francis Anderſon mayor, Henry Brabant ſheriff
1663 Sir James Clavering mayor, Robert Shaftoe ſheriff
1664 Sir Francis Liddell mayor, Francis Liddell ſheriff
1665 Henry Maddiſon mayor, William Carr ſheriff
1666 William Blackett mayor, Timothy Daviſon ſheriff
1667 Henry Brabant mayor, Ralph Grey ſheriff
1668 Ralph Jenniſon mayor, Robert Jenniſon ſheriff
1669 Thomas Daviſon mayor, John Rogers ſheriff
1670 William Carr mayor, Richard Wright ſheriff
1671 Ralph Grey mayor, Matthew Jefferſon ſheriff
1672 Mark Milbank mayor, Robert Mallebar ſheriff
1673 Timothy Daviſon mayor, George Morton ſheriff
1674 Thomas Jenniſon mayor, Henry Jenniſon ſheriff
1675 Sir Francis Anderſon mayor, William Chriſtian ſheriff
1676 Sir Ralph Carr mayor, Michael Blackett ſheriff
1677 Robert Roddam mayor, Timothy Robſon ſheriff
1678 Matthew Jefferſon mayor, Nicholas Fenwick ſheriff
1679 George Morton mayor, William Aubone ſheriff
1680 Sir Nathaniel Johnſon mayor, Joſeph Bonner ſheriff
1681 Timothy Robſon mayor, John Squire ſheriff
1682 Nicholas Fenwick mayor, Nicholas Ridley ſheriff
1683 William Blackett mayor, John Rumney ſheriff
1684 William Aubone mayor, William Proctor ſheriff
1685 Sir Henry Brabant mayor, Ralph Elſtob ſheriff
1686 Nicholas Cole mayor, Thomas Paiſe ſheriff
1687 John Squire and Sir William Creagh mayors, William Ramſay and Samuel Gill ſheriffs
1688 William Hutchinſon and Nicholas Ridley mayors, Matthias Partis and Matthew White ſheriffs
1689 William Carr mayor, William Featherſtonhaugh ſheriff
1690 William Ramſay mayor, Thomas Waſſe ſheriff
1691 Matthew White mayor, Joſeph Atkinſon ſheriff

1692 Thomas Waſſe mayor, Benjamin Davilon ſheriff
1693 Sir Ralph Carr mayor, George Whinfield ſheriff
1694 Joſeph Atkinſon mayor, Robert Eden ſheriff
1695 Timothy Robſon mayor, George Henderſon ſheriff
1696 George Whinfield mayor, William Ramſey, junior, ſheriff
1697 Nicholas Fenwick mayor, George Cuthbertſon ſheriff
1698 Sir William Blackett mayor, Edward Harriſon ſheriff
1699 Robert Eden mayor, Jonathan Hargrave ſheriff
1700 George Anderſon mayor, John Bowes ſheriff
1701 William Ramſey mayor, William Bouſfour ſheriff
1702 William Carr mayor, John Bell ſheriff
1703 Matthew White mayor, Allan Bateman ſheriff
1704 Thomas Waſſe mayor, Matthew Matſin ſheriff
1705 Sir Ralph Carr mayor, William Elliſon ſheriff
1706 Nicholas Ridley mayor, Matthew Featherſtonhaugh ſheriff
1707 Joſeph Atkinſon mayor, Henry Reay ſheriff
1708 Robert Fenwick mayor, Edward Johnſon ſheriff
1709 George Whinfield and Jonathan Roddam mayors, Henry Dalſton ſheriff
1710 William Elliſon mayor, Ralph Reed ſheriff
1711 Matthew Featherſtonhaugh mayor, F. Rudſton ſheriff
1712 Henry Reay mayor, Joſeph Green ſheriff
1713 Richard Ridley mayor, Nicholas Fenwick ſheriff
1714 Edward Johnſon mayor, Roger Matſen ſheriff
1715 Henry Dalſton mayor, Nathaniel Clayton ſheriff
1716 Ralph Reed mayor, Francis Johnſon ſheriff
1717 Francis Rudſton mayor, John Kelly ſheriff
1718 Sir William Blackett mayor, Thomas Stephenſon ſheriff
1719 Joſeph Green mayor, Cuthbert Fenwick ſheriff
1720 Nicholas Fenwick mayor, Jacob Rutter ſheriff
1721 Francis Johnſon mayor, Stephen Coulſon ſheriff
1722 William Elliſon mayor, Robert Sorſbie ſheriff
1723 M. Featherſtonhaugh mayor, Richard Swinburne ſheriff
1724 William Carr mayor, James Moncaſter ſheriff
1725 Nathaniel Clayton mayor, Thomas Waſſe ſheriff
1726 Nicholas Fenwick mayor, Joſeph Liddell ſheriff
1727 Cuthbert Fenwick mayor, Robert Johnſon ſheriff
1728 Stephen Coulſon mayor, John Stephenſon ſheriff
1729 Henry Reay mayor, Cuthbert Smith ſheriff
1730 Francis Rudſton mayor, William Harbottle ſheriff
1731 Robert Sorſbie mayor, Challoner Cooper ſheriff
1732 Richard Ridley mayor, William Fenwick ſheriff
1733 Matthew Ridley mayor, John Simpſon ſheriff
1734 William Elliſon mayor, Robert Elliſon (his ſon) ſheriff
1735 Walter Blackett mayor, John Wilkinſon ſheriff
1736 Nicholas Fenwick mayor, Matthew Bell ſheriff
1737 William Carr mayor, Jonathan Sorſbie ſheriff

1738

1738 Nathaniel Clayton mayor, William Greenwell ſheriff
1739 Cuthbert Fenwick mayor, Cuthbert Collingwood ſheriff
1740 Edward Collingwood mayor, Ralph Sowerby ſheriff
1741 Robert Sorſbie mayor, John Ord ſheriff
1742 John Simpſon mayor, William Peareth ſheriff
1743 Ralph Sowerby mayor, George Collpitts ſheriff
1744 John Ord mayor, Aubone Surtees ſheriff
1745 Cuthbert Smith mayor, Henry Partis ſheriff
1746 Nicholas Fenwick mayor, Henry Eden ſheriff
1747 The ſame mayor, William Watſon ſheriff
1748 Walter Blackett mayor, John Vonholte ſheriff
1749 Robert Sorſbie mayor, Robert Herron ſheriff
1750 Ralph Sowerby mayor, William Clayton ſheriff
1751 Matthew Ridley mayor, Matthew Scarfe, ſheriff
1752 Henry Partis mayor, Francis Rudſton ſheriff
1753 Henry Eden mayor, John Harriſon ſheriff
1754 Cuthbert Smith mayor, William Rowell ſheriff
1755 William Clayton mayor, William Harbottle ſheriff
1756 Sir Walter Blackett mayor, John Eraſmus Blackett, ſheriff
1757 Matthew Bell mayor, John Scurfield ſheriff
1758 Ralph Sowerby mayor, Edward Moſley, ſheriff
1759 Matthew Ridley mayor, Matthew Stephenſon ſheriff
1760 Henry Partis mayor, John Baker ſheriff
1761 Aubone Surtees mayor, Fletcher Partis ſheriff
1762 Cuthbert Smith mayor, Hugh Hornby ſheriff
1763 William Clayton mayor, Francis Forſter ſheriff
1764 Sir Walter Blackett mayor, Thomas Blackett ſheriff
1765 John Eraſmus Blackett mayor, Charles Atkinſon ſheriff
1766 Matthew Scaife mayor; John Hedley ſheriff
1767 Edward Moſley mayor, Richard Lacy ſheriff
1768 John Baker mayor, William Coulſon ſheriff
1769 Francis Forſter mayor, William Reed ſheriff
1770 Aubone Surtees mayor, James Liddell ſheriff
1771 Sir Walter Blackett mayor, Chriſtopher Wilkinſon ſheriff
1772 John Eraſmus Blackett mayor, James Rudman ſheriff
1773 Matthew Scaife mayor, till on his death he was ſucceeded by Edward Moſley, William Yeilder ſheriff
1774 Sir M. W. Ridley mayor, Francis Johnſon ſheriff
1775 Charles Atkinſon mayor, William Cramlington ſheriff
1776 John Baker mayor, Thomas Loraine ſheriff
1777 John Hedley mayor, Robert Clayton ſheriff
1778 Hugh Hornby mayor, James Wilkinſon ſheriff
1779 Francis Forſter mayor, Iſaac Cookſon ſheriff
1780 John Eraſmus Blackett mayor, William Surtees ſheriff
1781 Edw. Moſley mayor, John Wallis and Geo. Collpitts ſheriffs
1782 Sir Matthew White Ridley mayor, Richard Bell ſheriff
1783 Charles Atkinſon mayor, Chriſtopher Soulſby ſheriff

1784 James Rudman mayor, Edward Dale ſheriff
1785 William Yeilder mayor, Aubone Surtees jun. ſheriff
1786 Francis Johnſon mayor, Richard Chambers ſheriff
1787 William Cramlington mayor, Joſeph Forſter ſheriff
1788 John Hedley mayor, Robert Newton Lynn ſheriff
1789 Hugh Hornby mayor, Nathaniel Hornby ſheriff
1790 John Eraſmus Blackett mayor, Chas. J. Clavering ſheriff
1791 Sir M. White Ridley mayor, Shaftoe John Hedley, ſheriff
1792 James Rudman mayor, Matthew Pringle ſheriff
1793 William Yeilder mayor, Henry John Hounſom ſheriff
1794 Francis Johnſon mayor, Archibald Reed ſheriff
1795 Richard Chambers mayor, Anthony Smith ſheriff
1796 William Cramlington mayor, Nicholas Hall ſheriff
1797 Anthony Hood mayor, Thomas Hood ſheriff
1798 John Wallis mayor, William Wright ſheriff
1799 Shaftoe John Hedley mayor, Henry Cramlington ſheriff
1800 Archibald Reed mayor, Aubone Surtees jun. ſheriff
1801 Joſeph Forſter mayor, Math. Hedley and Iſaac Cookſon, jun. ſheriffs.

Thus have we arrived at the terminating period of our work. In tracing the origin of Newcaſtle, its gradual progreſs through barbarous and bleeding ages, from forming only a part of a mighty barrier of a powerful ambitious people, afterwards the unintereſting reſidence of ſwarms of religious, to its arrival at that pitch of greatneſs to which it has now attained, we feel ourſelves affected with the moſt pleaſant ſenſations, while we reſpectfully hope that we have preſented, in a ſuccinct yet lucid view, an account of the walls, ſtreets, churches, public buildings, the government and municipal conſtitution, the numerous trades and incorporated companies, the commerce, in its various enriching ramifications, which pervade the whole maſs of a numerous and induſtrious people; in a word, whatever is intereſting in and about Newcaſtle. Nor does a retroſpective view of what it has been excite an apprehenſive ſigh, foreboding of a ſuſpicion

ſuſpicion of its having arrived at the ſummit of its greatneſs: on the contrary, when we conſider the internal reſources of an active and enterprising people, the many public improvements at preſent going forward; but, above all, when our hopes of a Canal, from the eaſtern to the weſtern ſeas, to be ſpeedily begun, have almoſt a certainty of being realiſed, our proſpects of the future grandeur of the ſubject of our hiſtory expand to our delighted imagination. Nor have we any doubts that the friends of the poliſhed arts of life, and of uſeful ſcience, will continue and increaſe their efforts to diffuſe their benign influence among the inhabitants of the town; and ardently hope, that every barrier erected againſt the intereſts of knowledge and virtue, by intereſted and deſigning men, will fall to the ground.

In looking over our work, we obſerve many miſtakes, ſeveral of which were pointed out to us by our candid and worthy friends. A liſt of the moſt material *errata* is ſubjoined. And as gratitude is one of the moſt amiable virtues, we cannot cloſe our obſervations without ſincerely hoping that we feel its influence, in its full force, towards our ſubſcribers, many of whom are in the firſt claſs for literary and ſcientific accompliſhments. For their kind and uſeful obſervations, their friendly corrections, and that partiality which they have uniformly ſhewn towards our work, our beſt wiſhes for their proſperity, in their various ſtations in ſociety, will ever attend them, and will be coeval with our lives.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

IN our account of the glaſs-works (p. 512) we accidentally ommitted mentioning thoſe at Lemington, where there are two houſes for the manufacture of crown glaſs, belonging to the Northumberland Company, under the firm of Waldie and Co. One of theſe buildings is ſaid to be the higheſt conical glaſs-houſe in the united kingdoms. The duties paid to government, for the Lemington glaſs-works, amount to about two thouſand ſeven hundred pounds, every ſix weeks. Nearly one hundred workmen are employed in theſe two houſes.

To the manufactories in the vicinity of Newcaſtle may likewiſe be added the extenſive paper-mills of Mr. Robert Rumney, at Warden; Meſſrs. A. and J. Annandale, at Haughton; and Mr. John Smith, at Langley; who make conſiderable quantities of all ſorts of paper, and have large warehouſes in Newcaſtle, conſtantly ſtored with that article.

Three ſurveyors are ſtationed at Shields, who, in rotation, hail all veſſels that enter the harbour, to know their names, from whence they come, and their cargoes, for the purpoſe of announcing their arrival, at the Exchange, in Newcaſtle.

The original life-boat, we find, was built at South Shields, by Mr. Greathead, about twelve years ago; that at North Shields was conſtructed by the ſame gentleman, ſome time afterwards, under the patronage of the duke of Northumberland, who gives an annual donation of twenty pounds towards its ſupport. It is about thirty feet long over all, and ten feet broad, built in a flaunching manner, and decked at the floor heads, rows with twelve oars, fixed with grummets on iron pins, ſteers at both ends, and covered with cork on the outſide two or three ſtrokes down from the gunwale, will carry thirty people well, and live in a moſt tremendous broken-headed ſea. In page 563 we mention that ſix or eight men are able to manage it; which ſtatement we find, upon minute enquiry, to be erroneous, fourteen being the exact number. The ſubject of the life-boat is at preſent under the conſideration of parliament, and the merit of Mr. Greathead, for this truly laudable invention, will doubtleſs be amply rewarded.

There are four banks in Newcaſtle, namely, Meſſrs. Surtees, Burdon, and Co. in Moſley-ſtreet; Sir M. W. Ridley, Bell, and Co. in Pilgrim-ſtreet; Sir William Loraine, Baker, and Co. in Church-ſtreet; and R. J. Lambton, Bulman, and Co. in Dean-ſtreet.

Among the cork-cutters in Newcaſtle, the moſt conſiderable are the following: viz.—Mr. Rowley, George's-ſtairs; and Mr. Braſs, ſen. Pepper-corn-chare, Quay-ſide.

A moſt ingenious and yet ſimple combination of machinery, for the purpoſes of regulating the conveyance of waggons, laden with coals, down an incloſed plane, from Benwell colliery, on the north ſide of the Tyne, to the ſtaith at the border of the river, and for bringing up the waggons, when unloaded, by the ſame power that reſiſted its projectile *impetus* in the deſcent, was, in the year 1798, perfected and brought into uſe by the late Mr. Barnes. The length of the rail-way, on which the waggon runs, is 864 yards, which diſtance it deſcends in two minutes and a half, and re-aſcends in the ſame ſpace of time; ſo that a loaded waggon can be let down with eaſe and ſafety, the coal diſcharged, and the empty waggon returned to the pit, within the compaſs of *ſeven minutes!* The impelling and the reſiſting powers of motion are derived from a plummet, weighing 16½ cwt. which the waggon, in aſcending and deſcending, alternately raiſes and lowers the depth of 144 yards. The rope, by which the waggon is impeded and accelerated, winds round the axis of a large wheel, in a niche or groove in the middle, that gives the rope only ſpace to coil round upon itſelf, and thereby guards againſt all poſſibility of entanglement. Near to the axis of the large coiling wheel, there is an oblique indention of caſt iron, which correſponds with and works into a ſimilar conformation on the rim of a ſmaller wheel, round which the plummet rope is coiled or warped, and is, in conſequence therefore, moved round only once in ſix rotations of the ſuſpending and retracting wheel, which exactly correſponds with the elevation of the weight and the deſcent of the waggon. To preſerve the rope from injury, by dragging on the ground, rollers with iron pivots and braſs ſockets, for it to run upon, are elevated in the middle of the rail-way, but ſufficiently low to prove no obſtruction to the waggon, which paſſes over them.

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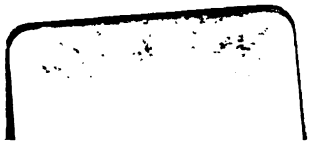
ERRATA.

Page	Line	
40	22	For it appears to have been uniformly twenty-two feet, or a chain, in width, read it appears to have been of an irregular width, in some places twenty-two feet.
44	19	For Troissart, read Froissard.
73	11	For foot of Westgate-street, read head.
93		Dunston is erroneously said to belong to Morton College; it belongs at present to the earl of Tankerville; the tythes of corn only belong to Morton College.
127	29	For Beverley Buffs, read first battalion of the Yorkshire West Riding militia.
130	19	For Caverley, read Calverley.
213	1	For Morley, read Marley.
220	7	For 1713, read 1783.
226	16	Add, the steeple of which is 194 feet high.
229	last l.	For daily burial service, read daily *and* burial service.
310	15	For twelve, read eight thousand.
338	16	Read not *only* in Newcastle.
402	2 col.	In the year 1787, for Thomas Hogg, read Joseph Hogg.
445	2	From the bottom, for ransaiked, read ransacked.
516	3	For two or three, read between one and two guineas.
518	13	Dele the whole of the line.
519	23	Read a distillery for coal-tar at St. Peter's quay is conducted by Mess. Redshaw and Ridley; and the manufactory for lamp-black there, belonging to the same.
529	8	For Oxley, read Oxen.
533	6	For peculiar to, read carried on in.
551	7	For Turnbull, read Tunstall.
554	20	Dele the *s* at probablys, and insert a comma.

DIRECTIONS for the BINDER.

The plan of the town to face the title-page; the list of subscribers to follow the title-page; the plate of the New Assembly Rooms to face page 215; that of St Nicholas' church to face page 221; that of All-Saints to face page 261; and that of the Infirmary to front page 321.